



1884
HISTORY
OF
MONTGOMERY COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

Virginia Womack

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HISTORY
OF
MONTGOMERY COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA.

EDITED BY
THEODORE W. BEAN.

VOLUME II

PHILADELPHIA:
EVERTS & PECK.

1884.

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CHAPTER XL.

BOROUGH OF BRIDGEPORT.¹

THE borough of Bridgeport is of recent origin, having been incorporated by an act of Assembly passed February 27, 1851. Its area is four hundred and sixty acres, and was wholly taken from the township of Upper Merion, in which it had been previously situated. In its form it is irregular, having somewhat the shape of a scalene triangle. It is bounded on the north and northeast by the Schuylkill, and on the south and west by Upper Merion. Few towns have a more beautiful and advantageous situation. It is opposite Norristown, and the land rises gradually from the river. The borough extends on the Schuylkill from the dam down to the outlet lock, a distance of a mile. De Kalb Street, which was laid out in 1830 as the State road, extends across the bridge from Norristown, and is turnpiked. Front Street extends from De Kalb Street to the Swedes' Ford bridge. The nearest street running parallel with the river is called Front Street, the next is Second, and so on to Tenth Street, which forms the southwestern boundary of the borough. De Kalb, Front, Second and Third are the principal streets, and contain handsome brick houses, several of which are occupied by persons who have retired from business. According to the census of 1850, Bridgeport contained 572 inhabitants; in 1860, 1011; in 1870, 1578; and in 1880, 1802.

That Bridgeport is no inconsiderable business place is sufficiently proven from the number of its stores, manufactories and other establishments located within its limits. In May, 1883, it contained seventeen stores, four hotels, two dealers in flour and feed, two restaurants and one lumber and three coal-yards. The Minerva Mill ranks among the extensive manufactories in the State. It is now conducted by James Lees & Sons in the manufacture of blankets, Kentucky jeans and worsted carpet-yarns, giving employment to near one thousand hands. In consequence of the space required for such extensive operations this firm has greatly enlarged the buildings. The factory was originally erected in 1854 by Bodey & Jacobs, and afterwards owned by Needles & Brothers. Next in extent is the woolen-mill of Worrall & Radcliff, manufacturers of Kentucky jeans, employing one hundred and seventy hands. Isaac W. Smith, formerly of Valley Forge, has erected an extensive building on Swede Street (in 1883) for the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods, calculated to give employment to about one hundred hands. Hugh McInnes carries on the manufacture of Manilla paper at the Rebecca Mill, employing some thirty-five hands. This building was formerly known as the Norris Oil-Works, established by Dr. H. T. Slemmer in 1866. Dager & Cox employ twenty hands at the Eureka

Mill in the manufacture of Manilla paper. They occupy the building, formerly used as a saw-mill, near the canal basin, which they have enlarged and improved. Isaac Richards occupies the building formerly used by Joel W. Andrews as an agricultural warehouse, employing ten hands in the manufacture of elevators and patent dumb-waiters. Allen Ridgway occupies a portion of W. W. Potts' car-works building, employing fifteen hands in the manufacture of woolen yarns. Benjamin Gardner occupies the other part in the manufacture of Turkish toweling, giving employment to ten hands. In the spring of 1883 a creamery was put in operation by Kersey & Brothers, from Chester County. Besides the aforesaid there are two extensive flouring-mills and several smaller manufacturing establishments and mechanic shops. In 1882 the real estate was valued at \$695,525, and for 1883, 455 taxables were returned, holding a total property of \$755,550, the aggregate *per capita* being \$1656.

The public schools are five in number, all held in one commodious brick building, erected in 1856 on a lot of ground one hundred and fifty feet square, situated at the south corner of De Kalb and Sixth Streets. They are divided into three departments,—grammar, secondary and primary. The schools are open ten months, with an average attendance of one hundred and fifty-five pupils for the year ending June 1, 1882. In 1857 the schools were three in number, open only five months. The school-house previously used was built for this purpose in 1842, and stood at the corner of Mill and Second Streets. It was a stone structure, twenty-five by fifty-eight feet in dimensions, and the schools were kept in it until the erection of the present large building, when it was used for several years for the meetings of the Borough Council. After remaining awhile unoccupied it was torn down in the spring of 1883.

The Baptist Church of Bridgeport was constituted March 19, 1850, with fifteen members, by a council composed of delegates from the Baptist Churches of Norristown, Roxborough, Chestnut Hill and Balligomongo. A preliminary meeting had been held February 20, 1850, at the house of Samuel Yocum, and eleven persons, mostly members of the Baptist Church of Norristown, signed an agreement to endeavor to organize a church. A lot, eighty by one hundred feet, had been purchased on Fourth Street, and a church edifice, forty-five by sixty feet, was then being built, and was completed at a cost of two thousand four hundred dollars. It was dedicated June 16, 1850, the Rev. A. S. Patton, of West Chester, and the Rev. J. A. McKean, of Philadelphia, officiating. On the 9th of April, 1850, the Rev. William Smith was called to the pastorate, and accepted and served until September 19, 1851. The church was admitted to the Philadelphia Baptist Association October 10, 1850. The pastors who have served the church from the resignation of the Rev. William Smith are as fol-

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

lows: David T. Carnahan, May 15, 1852, to April 30, 1856; Charles Thompson, January, 1857, to February 27, 1861; Miller Jones, December 14, 1861, to March 30, 1864; Henry Bray, January 13, 1865, to March, 1867; Samuel C. Meade, June 26, 1867, to February 26, 1868; E. E. Jones, December 3, 1868, to March 27, 1872; Miller Jones, May 1, 1872, to December 7, 1879; Charles F. Williams, March 31, 1882, to September 3, 1884; C. C. Earle, September 29, 1884. The last is the present pastor. The church has a membership of about two hundred and fifty.

The parsonage on the church lot was built in 1868, at a cost of about three thousand five hundred dollars. The church edifice was remodeled and refurnished in 1880 at a cost of about fifteen hundred dollars.

The Second Presbyterian (Old School) Church of Norristown, located at Bridgeport, was constituted in 1850 and its charter was obtained the same year. A meeting was held in 1849 at the house of Samuel Stewart, at which a number were present. A committee was appointed to visit Samuel Paul, who was sent out from New York as a missionary to near Phoenixville. He visited this place, and services were held for a time in the German Reformed Church of Norristown. In 1852 the small frame building that had been used by the Protestant Methodists, and which stood on the corner of Green and Airy Streets, was rented and, later, purchased. Mr. Paul preached to the people until 1852, when the Rev. Joseph Nesbitt assumed charge of this church with the church at Conshohocken, and continued as pastor until about 1859 when he was succeeded by the Rev. Samuel Harrison. Upon the breaking out of the war, in 1861, the entire male members of the church, except three, joined the army; this left the congregation so small that the Rev. Mr. Harrison resigned. From that time until the close of the war the pulpit was supplied, without charge, by the Rev. Charles Collins, a clergyman of the German Reformed Church who resided near here. At the close of the war the Rev. James Mosten was chosen as a stated supply, and remained until about 1870. About this time the church and lot were sold, with privilege of use for church purposes for one year. In 1872 the congregation began to hold service in Mogue's Chapel and continued to do so for two years. In the spring of 1874 a lot, seventy-seven by one hundred and fifty feet, on Sixth, De Kalb and Green Streets, in Bridgeport, was purchased of Benjamin F. Hancock's estate, and the present church edifice was erected, at a cost of twenty-two thousand eight hundred dollars.

About 1872 the Rev. Belleville Roberts was chosen as supply and, later, as pastor. He served four years and was succeeded by the Rev. Henry F. Mason, who served until 1882, since which time the church has been served with supplies, mostly from Princeton College.

The various public improvements that either pass through or begin here contribute much to the pros-

perity and business advantages of the place. Among the first constructed was the Schuylkill Navigation and Canal. This great work is one hundred and eight miles in length, beginning at the Fairmount dam and extending to Port Carbon, above Pottsville. It was commenced in 1816 and finished in 1824 for the passage of boats of sixty tons' burthen. It was sufficiently completed to this place in 1818 to admit the descent of a few boats. The whole line in 1846 was enlarged, and boats of one hundred and ninety tons now pass and repass. When the navigation company constructed the dam here it was their intention to make the canal on the east side of the river, but the people of Norristown were so much opposed to the measure that, through the liberal offers of Elisha Evans, the principal owner of the land on the Bridgeport side, they were induced to locate it there. No doubt at this early day, when there were but two houses here, Mr. Evans foresaw the advantages that would arise in the future from such an arrangement. The result, however, occasioned some alarm, for a public meeting was held in Norristown June 27, 1820, recommending the appointment of a committee to purchase from John Markley the right of way across the lower end of Barbadoes Island that readier access be afforded to the canal in the shipment or transportation of goods. This, it should be remembered, was ten years before the completion of any bridge over the Schuylkill for miles within this vicinity. The entire works of the navigation and canal were leased by the Reading Railroad Company July 12, 1870, and have since been under their control.

The bridge over the Schuylkill, at De Kalb Street, is eight hundred feet long, resting on three stone piers, and with the abutments ten hundred and fifty feet. The original cost was thirty-one thousand two hundred dollars; of this amount the county subscribed ten thousand dollars and the State six thousand dollars. It was erected by a joint-stock company, chartered April 6, 1830. It was commenced in the spring of 1829, and by September was so far completed that foot-passengers were enabled to cross. It was finished in 1830, but the largest portion has since been rebuilt. In October, 1884, it was made a free bridge and now belongs to the county. A company had been chartered as early as 1815 to erect a bridge here, but failed for the want of sufficient capital. The Swedes' Ford Bridge Company was incorporated March 30, 1848, but the bridge was not finished until the close of 1851, at a cost of about forty thousand dollars. On the evening of March 15, 1883, it was destroyed by fire, but has since been rebuilt by the Reading Railroad Company, whose tracks are laid over it, and who have leased it since 1872.

No sooner had the De Kalb Street bridge been built than efforts were made to have a State road laid out from New Hope, on the Delaware, though Doyles-town, by way of this place and West Chester, to the Maryland line. To authorize this the Assembly passed

an act at the same time the bridge was chartered. The road was accordingly laid out December 29, 1830, passing through Montgomery County a distance of sixteen miles. The court, August 17, 1831, directed it to be opened and cleared to the breadth of forty feet. It has since been generally known as the State road. This road was turnpiked from Bridgeport to the King of Prussia in 1853.

The Reading Railroad Company was chartered April 4, 1833, and the next year the larger portion of the road was put under contract. On December 9, 1839, the first locomotive and train of cars passed over it to Reading. It was not opened to Pottsville till early in 1842, when the event was celebrated with a military display and an immense procession of seventy-five passenger cars, twelve hundred and fifty-five feet in length, containing two thousand one hundred and fifty persons, three bands of music, one hundred and eighty tons of coal, part of which was mined the same morning four hundred and twelve feet below water-level. In August, 1858, the writer, while standing in De Kalb Street, counted a train of ninety-five cars passing loaded with coal, drawn by a single locomotive. The depot here was built in 1838, eighty feet long by thirty feet wide. Near by the company have also a building or reservoir to supply locomotives with water while stopping, which is elevated by means of water-power furnished at the spring. The Chester Valley Railroad Company was incorporated by act of April 22, 1850, and extends from Bridgeport to Downingtown, twenty-two miles. The first train of cars passed over it September 12, 1853. It is also operated by the Reading Company, and is connected with their road here and in Norristown.

In the desire to have a post-office here in 1836 a contest arose as to what it should be called; some were in favor of Evansville, others of Keigersville, but the majority settled on Bridgeport, which name has been retained. The post-office was established in 1837 and Jonathan Morris appointed postmaster. He kept at this time a store in De Kalb Street, near the bridge. Strange to say, from the want of support it was abolished about 1843. After the borough had been incorporated over two years, or in 1853, the application was renewed and it was re-established, with Francis Lyle postmaster. He was succeeded the following year by John H. Rowan, next Abraham Schoffner for two years, E. M. Bickel in 1858, Jacob M. Hurst until May, 1861, when Dr. George W. Holstein was appointed, who still retains the position. The mails have increased from one daily arrival and departure to seven, thus showing that the office is no sinecure.

Although Bridgeport is of recent origin, as has been already stated, yet its history extends back to an early period. Swedes' Ford is within its limits, around which cluster both colonial and Revolutionary reminiscences. In the year 1712, Mats Holstein, with his wife, Brita Gostenberg, moved into this neighborhood from the country below, accompanied

by Gunner Rambo, Peter Rambo, Peter Yocum and John Matson. His tract lay farthest up the river, along which it had a frontage of nearly a mile, and extended back into the country twice that distance, embracing all the territory upon which the borough of Bridgeport is now laid out, the Shainline farms and the land from Red Hill to the river. The house into which he moved his family was built of logs, on the site of what was afterwards known as the Swedes' Ford Hotel. In 1714 he built a stone house, upwards of a mile from the river, the walls of which are still standing, having been built upon and added to several times since. He died in 1738, aged sixty-one years. His eldest son, Andrew, inherited the land in the vicinity of Swedes' Ford, where he settled and remained until his death, in 1769. He had an only son, Peter, who inherited the property, who married Abigail Jones. He kept the Swedes' Ford public-house in 1779, if not earlier, and the following year was appointed collector of taxes for Upper Merion. In 1780 he was assessed for holding here one hundred and ninety-seven acres of land.

Mats Holstein, the first settler, at the time of his death had a second son, Mathias, who was just then aged twenty-one years. He soon after married Magdalena, daughter of Marcus Hulings, an early Swedish settler at Morlatton, on the Schuylkill, four miles above the present borough of Pottstown. From this union has descended all of the name now in this locality. They had one son and seven daughters. Samuel, the son, married Rachel, the daughter of Philip Moore, of Haverford. The offspring of this marriage were four sons,—Mathias, Charles, George W. and William. Samuel Holstein is rated in the assessment of 1780 as holding in Upper Merion two hundred and seventy-eight acres, one negro, five horses and nine cattle. Respecting his son, Major Mathias Holstein, who became a prominent citizen of Bridgeport and Norristown, we shall have more to say.

Swedes' Ford must have borne this name some time before 1723, for in November of this year application was made to the Governor and Council to have a road laid out from Whiteland, in Chester County, to this ford, which, in the spring of the following year, was confirmed, and ordered to "be with all convenient speed opened, cleared and made good." A portion of the old Swedes' Ford tavern was supposed by the late Matthias Holstein to have been built before 1730. How early a public-house was kept here is not known, but certainly before 1760. It is a tradition that before the Revolution the inn had on its sign a representation of a ferry. A road was opened in 1730 from Wells' ferry now New Hope, on the river Delaware, through the present Doylestown, to this place, and in an advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of 1780, is called "the great road to the Swedes' Ford." That this was an early noted and important crossing-place is also confirmed by other authorities. Lewis Evans,

on his maps of 1749 and 1755 mentions it, also Nicholas and William Scull in 1759 and 1770, Thomas Pownall in 1776, and Reading Howell in 1792.

The battle of Brandywine was fought September 11, 1777; at twelve o'clock that night Washington wrote a dispatch to Congress from Chester, in which he says, "This day's engagement resulted in our defeat." On the 13th he formed his headquarters at Germantown, with the determination of having another engagement before the fate of Philadelphia should be decided. General Armstrong, with a portion of the militia, was posted along the Schuylkill to throw up redoubts at the different fords where the enemy would be most likely to cross, and which were to be occasionally occupied while Washington moved with the main body of the army to the other side to make another attack. Apprehending that it would be very likely that the British would attempt to cross at Swedes' Ford, Chevalier Du Portail, a French engineer, constructed a number of redoubts on the east side of the river, upwards of half a mile in length, with the assistance of Armstrong's command. It is said that they had scarcely completed these works before the British made their appearance on the opposite side of the river, and on beholding the defenses, changed their purpose and crossed at Fatland Ford.

When Washington broke up his encampment at Whitemarsh with the intention of going into winter-quarters at Valley Forge, it was his intention to cross the Schuylkill at Matson's Ford now Conshohocken, for which purpose a temporary bridge was formed, but on reaching there they found that Lord Cornwallis was in possession of the Gulf Hills, when the troops were recalled, and he proceeded up the east side of the river. It was ascertained afterwards that the British troops on this occasion had only been out here on a foraging expedition. At Swedes' Ford the army crossed December 13th, which was witnessed by Major Holstein, then a boy accompanied by his father, who related that it was effected by making a bridge of wagons all backed to each other. The aforesaid date is confirmed by an eye-witness in a letter, Colonel John Laurens, Washington's private secretary, to his father, from which we take an extract,—

"The army was ordered to march to Swedes' Ford and encamp with the right to the Schuylkill. The next morning the want of provisions—I could weep tears of blood when I say it—rendered it impossible to march. We did not march till the evening of that day. Our ancient bridge, an infamous construction which in many parts obliged the men to march in Indian file, was restored, and a bridge of wagons made over Swedes' Ford, but fence-rails from necessity being substituted to plank, and furnishing a very unstable footing, the last served to cross a trifling number of troops. On the 19th instant we marched from the Gulph to this camp."

The aforesaid is interesting, showing conclusively that Washington crossed here at the aforesaid date and that they remained encamped in the vicinity until the 19th, when they reached Valley Forge. Historians have been heretofore somewhat puzzled as to the

exact date of the army arriving at their winter quarters, which this now clearly establishes.

Mary, the only child of Peter Holstein, on the death of her father in 1785, inherited the whole of his property. Within four months of that occurrence she married Levi Bartleson, stated to have been of reckless habits and to whom her parents had been opposed. Records show that he kept the Swedes' Ford tavern in 1786. In one year she was compelled to sell one hundred acres of the tract to pay off his most pressing debts. Thus the property became divided and before long passed entirely out of her hands.

The Chevalier Louis L. Du Portail, mentioned as an engineer, arrived in this country in 1777, having previously served in that capacity in the French army. On the following November 17th he was commissioned a brigadier-general, and in the beginning of 1778 a colonel of engineers. He was at Yorktown, and for his services in November, 1781, appointed a major-general. He soon after this sailed for France, but returned before 1789, and purchased a farm here from James Philip Delacour, assessed in 1804 as containing one hundred and seventy-one acres. He built a dwelling where the present Evans House stands, where he resided with his family. He advertised to sell at public sale, June 15, 1801, all his farming stock and utensils, including "two plantations adjoining each other." He soon after this sailed for France, but it is stated died on the passage out. The property going to decay and the taxes unpaid, it was sold by the sheriff some time after 1804, and purchased by Elisha Evans, and from him came into the possession of his son, Cadwallader Evans, who laid out the upper part of Bridgeport, and also largely contributed to its improvement.

The remaining portion of the tract around Swedes' Ford, which Mary Holstein was obliged to part with after her marriage with Bartleson, was purchased by Jesse Roberts, who sold it in 1800 to Samuel Holstein, from whom it descended to his son, the late Major Mathias Holstein, of Norristown. We find in the assessor's list of 1804 that he then kept the old Swedes' Ford tavern and was the owner of two farms in Upper Merion, one of fifty-one acres, which we presume was here; the other contained one hundred and fourteen acres. He was also taxed for keeping the ferry, which was rated at one hundred and twenty dollars per annum. While he resided here he built an addition to the house. In 1806 his property here was purchased by Samuel Henderson, and he removed to Norristown. In this connection a further account of Major Holstein may not be amiss. He was born October 10, 1772, on the old homestead that had been so long in the family. He related that about 1790 he was the means of killing, on his father's farm, a bear, by shooting it while on a tree where it had sought refuge. In the spring of 1802 he was elected major

of the Thirty-sixth Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia, and in October, 1805, General Francis Swaine appointed him quartermaster of the First Brigade in the Second Division. In 1808 he went into partnership with David Thomas, and continued for several years storekeeping at the corner of Main and Swede Streets, where they also kept a lumber-yard. In 1812 he was elected a member of the Borough Council, a Presidential elector of the Clinton ticket, director of the Ridge Turnpike Company and one of the building committee of the new Episcopal Church. From 1800 to 1829 he was the proprietor of the principal mill for manufacturing flour, in which he did an extensive business. Eliza, his first wife, died February 22, 1815. In the summer of this year the Bank of Montgomery County was chartered, and he was made the first cashier, which position he held for some time. When the bridge over the Schuylkill was built he was one of the directors. In 1837 he became the ticket agent of the Philadelphia and Norristown Railroad. He died August 10, 1849, aged upwards of seventy-seven years, and his remains were deposited in the graveyard attached to Christ Church, below Bridgeport. He was a man endowed with more than ordinary powers of observation, and withal enjoyed a strong, retentive memory, and before his death few minds could be found better stored with the reminiscences of the past.

A view of Swedes' Ford was taken from an eminence on the east side of the river, by Mrs. Mary Ann Potts, in 1812. In this sketch a rope is represented stretched across the Schuylkill, fastened to the trunks of two trees, and a boat on the western shore. The only buildings seen are the stone tavern and its barn to the northwest. A short distance south of the house is the sign, suspended beneath a stout and elevated frame; standing near it is a tall white-pine and in the front a row of five fair-sized Lombardy poplars. It has been supposed that the said Mrs. Potts was a resident of Valley Forge, and a daughter-in-law of Isaac Potts, who was known to sketch landscapes. Another drawing was made in 1828 or a short time previous by William L. Breton, which is superior to the former, engraved by Gilbert. The house is very well-done; the road in front of it leading to the Schuylkill is represented as passing over the canal on a bridge. Only one pine and one Lombardy poplar are given, but of a large size. Immediately on the river's bank by the road-side the same trunk is represented with its ferry-rope to aid the flat

or boat in transporting passengers, horses, wagons, cattle and sheep to the other side. The ford or main crossing-place was about one hundred yards above the present bridge, and is not now readily recognized from the great changes made here by the improvements of more than sixty years. The white-pine spoken of was a remnant of the forest, and stood till 1847, when, through decay, it was deemed prudent to cut it down. It had been a twin-tree; its companion had been blown down in a violent storm in 1822. From their great height they had long served as conspicuous marks to the surrounding country, and thus became an object of interest to travelers.

Samuel Hender-



SWEDES FORD IN 1828.
View of Church at Swedes Ford.

son, as has been mentioned, in 1806 purchased the Swedes' Ford property, which he afterwards sold to Jacob Ramsey, who kept the public-house and carried on the farm until his death, in 1827. Lewis Ramsey, his son, and Daniel Schupert, as administrators, advertised the property at public sale August 15, 1829, wherein they state it to be a "valuable and desirable Tavern-stand and Ferry," containing one hundred and sixteen acres and one hundred and one perches, situated half a mile below Norristown, adjoining lands of Elisha Evans, Samuel Coates and the river Schuylkill. "The improvements are a large two-story stone Tavern-house, large stone barn and other out-buildings. A fountain of spring water at the door, from a large and never-failing spring, which is sufficient to turn a wheel for grinding scythes, axes, etc., and is now used for that purpose. The canal passes through the premises, and affords one of the most eligible situations for factories on the Schuylkill." From this we

learn that the water-power of the stream had been used some time previous to its present application by the Reading Railroad Company. The aforesaid property was purchased by Davis Henderson, who, in 1846, sold it to Colonel James Bush and John Freedly, who divided it into building lots and made many improvements in the lower portion of the borough. Mr. Bush converted the old house into a private residence, which is now occupied by his widow. It is still in good condition and its former appearance has been preserved.

After the incorporation of Bridgeport into a borough, in the winter of 1851, Perry M. Hunter, L. E. Corson, M. McGlathery and Alexander H. Supplee were ap-

thence north 66 degrees east 73 perches to a point in a line between lands of John and Lindsay Coates; thence by lands of Samuel Coates, south 83 degrees, east 145 perches and four-tenths of a perch to a point; thence by lands of said Samuel Coates, north 63 degrees 30 minutes, east 253 perches to low water-mark of the river Schuylkill aforesaid, and along and up said river the several courses thereof to the place of beginning."

The following is a list of the burgesses of the borough of Bridgeport since its incorporation: 1851-52, Washington Richards; 1853-56, Francis Mulvaney; 1857, George W. Holstein; 1858-59, Francis Mulvaney; 1860, George Pechin; 1861-62, Philip Bowman; 1863-64, F. Mulvaney; 1865-George S. Patterson; 1866-A. D. Delp; 1867-68, Benjamin B. Hughes; 1869-70, F. Mulvaney; 1871, C. D. Hess; 1872-73, Thomas Thomas; 1874, Charles L.



Benj B Hughes

pointed commissioners to lay out its territory from the township of Upper Merion. The following boundaries were then agreed upon:

"Beginning at low water-mark of the river Schuylkill, in said township; thence on a line dividing lands of E. C. Evans and the Schuylkill Navigation Company, south 20 degrees and 20 minutes, west 34 perches and two-tenths of a perch to a point in a public road in the great valley; thence along the middle of said road, south 65 degrees and 40 minutes, west 165 perches and five-tenths of a perch to a point in the middle of a road leading to Swedes' Ford road; thence along the same south 26 degrees 30 minutes, west 156 perches to a point in lands of Henry Novioch;

Corman; 1875-78, Benjamin B. Hughes; 1879, John A. Keiger; 1880-82, C. D. Hess; 1883, Isaac Ramsey; 1884, William Rennyson; 1885, William Rennyson.

In 1830 Bridgeport contained but three dwelling-houses, a tavern, and a large three-story stone mill, still standing near De Kalb Street and the canal, built in 1826. The erection of the Norristown bridge in 1829, and the opening of the State road the year after, began to give the first impulse to improvement,

which has not since been materially checked. In 1832, besides a store, the houses had increased to eight; in 1840, to fifty-three, and in 1849, to ninety-six. Elisha Evans, who did much through his enterprise to promote the growth of Bridgeport, kept in the beginning of this century the Rising Sun Hotel, in Norristown. He died in 1830, his wife having some time preceded him. His son, Cadwallader Evans, still resides here, the owner of considerable real estate. Gas was introduced in 1876, from Norristown, by means of a large pipe over the De Kalb Street bridge. Water is still procured from wells, being readily obtained at a depth of twenty feet of excellent quality.¹

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

BENJAMIN B. HUGHES.

Mr. Hughes is of Welsh descent, his great-great-grandfather, John Hughes, having emigrated from Wales about the year 1750, and purchased a tract of nine hundred acres in Upper Merion township, Montgomery Co. He had two sons, Isaac and Hugh, the latter of whom had a son Isaac, the grandfather of Benjamin B., who married Hannah Holstein, and had children,—four daughters and one son, John, who married Hannah Bartholomew, of Chester County. Their children were Rachel (Mrs. Jacob Dewees), Isaac, Benjamin B., Sator C., Francis W., Theodore J., Collin and J. Curtis. Benjamin B., of this number, was born June 27, 1808, on the Walnut Grove farm, in Upper Merion township, which is a portion of the ancestral estate. After such educational opportunities as the nearest school afforded, he determined to render himself independent by the acquirement of a trade, and chose that of tanner and currier, serving his apprenticeship at Frankford, Pa. Very little time was spent, however, at this trade, Mr. Hughes having soon after returned to the farm, which he purchased of his father. Upon this land were extensive deposits of iron-ore and a limestone quarry of much value, to which his attention was mainly devoted until 1851, when he removed to Bridgeport, since that date his residence. Though released from the responsibilities of active business, much of his time is absorbed in the management of his varied interests. Mr. Hughes was, in 1829, married to Miss Mary, daughter of Jonas Rambo, of Upper Merion township. Their children are John, Isaac W., Nathan R. (deceased), Collin, Mary (Mrs. H. O. Blackfan), Henry C., Hannah (deceased), Kate (Mrs. E. M. Evans), William C. and Francis (deceased). He was a second

time married, in 1858, to his present wife, who was Miss Mary J., daughter of David Brooke, of Upper Merion. Mr. Hughes was formerly a Whig in politics, and has more recently affiliated with the Republican party. Though not ambitious for the distinctions of office, he has served as county auditor and been repeatedly chosen burgess of the borough of Bridgeport. He is a director of the First National Bank of Norristown, and has filled the same position in the Montgomery National Bank. His integrity and excellent judgment have caused his services to be much in demand in the capacity of guardian and as the custodian of important trusts. He is a member of Christ (Old Swedes) Protestant Episcopal Church, of Bridgeport, in which he has served for forty years as senior warden.

CHAPTER XLI.

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN.¹

THE borough of Conshohocken was incorporated by an act of Assembly May 15, 1850, and in population is now the third in the county. It is situated on the east bank of the Schuylkill, four miles below Norristown and thirteen from Philadelphia, and is bounded on the north and northwest by Plymouth, east and southeast by Whitemarsh, and south and southwest by the Schuylkill. In its territorial extent it is one mile square, and therefore contains six hundred and forty acres, one-half of which was taken from Plymouth and the remainder from Whitemarsh. The land on which it is situated slopes gradually from the river for the distance of a quarter of a mile, when it attains, by a moderately steep elevation, the height of upwards of one hundred feet, after which it becomes level. Just below the borough and along the Schuylkill is an extensive flat reaching nearly to Spring Mill.

Though of recent origin, Conshohocken has become an important place, particularly in the variety and extent of its manufactures. According to the census of 1850, it contained 727 inhabitants; in 1860, 1741; in 1870, 3071; and in 1880, 4561. In the assessment for 1882, 1110 taxables are returned, holding real estate and personal property valued at \$2,085,555, being an average of \$1869. Licenses were issued in 1883 to 18 hotels, 7 restaurants, 3 dry-goods, 15 grocery, 3 tobacco, 3 drug, 2 meat, 4 confectionery, 1 carpet, 3 boot and shoe, and 2 clothing-stores, besides 1 lumber and 5 coal-yards. The First Ward in 1880 contained 1726 inhabitants, and the Second 2835. The place in 1832 contained only 1 store, 1 tavern, a rolling-mill, grist-mill and 6 houses; in 1858, 4 taverns and 22 stores; the census of 1860, 323 families and 324 houses. The

¹ Acknowledgments are due to Dr. George W. Holstein, of this borough, for information, he having also kindly furnished the writer with some materials on the same subject for two previous works on the county, —namely, in 1858 and 1876.

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

manufacturing establishments in 1870 were 4 rolling-mills, 3 furnaces, 1 cotton-mill, 1 print-works and a woolen-mill.

The first improvement which laid the foundation for its prosperity was the Schuylkill Canal and Navigation, which was commenced in 1816, and sufficiently completed in 1818 for the descent of a few boats of sixty tons burthen, but was not finished till 1824. It was the water-power of the dam here that gave the impetus to this manufacturing town. The bridge over the Schuylkill was built in 1833. In August, 1835, the railroad was finished through here to Norristown. The railroad to Plymouth was completed in 1836, and extended in 1870 to Oreland, where a junction is formed with the North Pennsylvania Railroad. A turnpike was made in 1849 to Plymouth Meeting, which was extended in 1855 to the Three Tons where it strikes the Limekiln pike. The Schuylkill Valley Railroad was opened through here in 1884, affording additional facilities for transportation to Philadelphia and the coal regions. These several improvements have all tended to promote the prosperity of the place. In addition to these, the abundance of excellent iron-ore, marble and limestone found in the neighborhood, afford unusual facilities for the borough to become a large manufacturing town.

The first rolling-mill in Conshohocken, and among the first in the State, was built by James Wood in 1832. It was erected for the manufacture of sheet-iron, saws, shovels and spades. The saw and shovel-works were built in 1835, and after running a few years were removed to Philadelphia. The rolling-mill was propelled by water-power furnished by the canal, and at the time was regarded as a great curiosity, people coming many miles to witness it in operation. It was rebuilt and enlarged in 1845, again in 1867, and also in 1883, when its capacity was more than doubled. When first started three hundred tons of sheet-iron were thought a good production for one year, but now, under the management of John Wood & Brother, sons of the former proprietor, it has been increased to fifteen hundred tons. This firm, in 1852, built a new steam-mill on the opposite side of the canal, which has also been rebuilt and greatly improved. They also erected a second steam-mill in 1864, which was destroyed by fire in 1882, but since rebuilt and enlarged. The production of their mills is now about six thousand tons of sheet and plate-iron per year, giving employment to two hundred and fifty men, who receive one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars for wages. The Schuylkill Iron-Works of Alan Wood & Co. have a capacity of fifteen thousand tons of sheet and plate-iron per annum, ten acres of ground being inclosed for their operations and buildings. They employ between five hundred and six hundred hands, and pay out thirty-five thousand dollars monthly for wages. Before 1858 they employed twenty hands, but in that year they built their large steam rolling-mill, to which

they have since several times made additions. John Wood, Jr., has an establishment for making boilers and machinery, with a foundry and car-shops, giving employment to twenty-five skilled hands. W. T. Bate & Son also carry on the manufacture of patent boilers and machinery, employing from thirty to forty men. The Longmead Iron-Works, Jawood Lukens, proprietor, employ about sixty hands in the manufacture of muck-bars. They possess a capacity of five thousand tons annually.

The Plymouth Furnaces and Rolling-Mill, belonging to a company, are in charge of Samuel Fulton, as general superintendent. They have a capacity of twenty-two thousand tons of iron per annum, and give employment to three hundred men. They also carry on the Lucinda Furnace, at Norristown. These works were originally started by Stephen Colwell, an enterprising citizen of Philadelphia, in 1844, and in the following year he had the furnace in operation. He also erected here, at the same time, a large foundry for the making of various kinds of water and gas-pipes. So extensive had this latter manufacture become that it is reported on reliable authority that for several years previous to 1849 three thousand tons of iron were used for this purpose alone. Mr. Fulton is a nephew of the late Mr. Colwell. The second furnace was built here in 1864. A company has been recently incorporated with one hundred thousand dollars capital, called the Conshohocken Tube Works, A. L. Murphy, manager.

The Conshohocken Cotton and Woolen-Mill, Stanly Lees, proprietor, employs one hundred and eighty hands. It contains one hundred and forty looms and produces twenty-five thousand yards of cottonades weekly. This mill was built in 1856, one hundred and forty by sixty feet in extent, and the present proprietor has been a manufacturer here since. The Conshohocken Woolen-Mill of H. C. Jones & Co. employs seventy-five hands and has capacity for making three thousand yards of cloth per week. This establishment in 1858 was conducted by James and Lawrence Ogden. The Albion Print-Works, Lea & Cresson, proprietors, is an important industry, employing two hundred and fifty hands. This establishment is on the site of Walter Cresson's mill, who was an early manufacturer here. The Conshohocken Warp-Mill, Hamilton Maxwell, late proprietor, is not now in operation. Jones & Yerkes have a steam planing-mill giving labor to twenty-five hands. Evan D. Jones & Co. carry on an extensive lumber-yard. The East Conshohocken Stone Quarry Company carries on a large business. They have supplied the heavy foundation-stones for the railroad bridges lately built over the Wissahickon and Schuylkill at Manayunk. The North Conshohocken quarry also gives considerable employment.

The public schools are twelve in number, open ten months, with an average attendance of four hundred and thirty-four pupils for the school year ending June

1, 1882. These are all held in two buildings, Professor J. Warren Schlichter, principal the primary department occupying four rooms, with four teachers; the higher, eight rooms in four division with eight teachers. The buildings are of stone, rough-cast and two-stories in height. The grammar department possesses a collection of chemical and philosophical apparatus and a library of upwards of nine hundred volumes of standard works for reference. The public schools in 1857 were only three in number, attended by two hundred and thirty-two pupils, kept in one building, erected for this purpose in 1855, at the corner of Fayette Street and Second Avenue, in which the elections were also held.

The churches of Conshohocken are six in number,—Presbyterian, St. Matthew's Catholic, Methodist Episcopal, Calvary Episcopal, Baptist and African Methodist Episcopal.

Presbyterian Church.—The first organized congregation was the Presbyterian. In 1846 the Rev. Thomas Murphy, then pastor of a Presbyterian Church at Frankford, visited this place and interested the members to organize a church and erect a house of worship. Service was held at various times, and early in the year 1847 a church was constituted. A lot was donated for church purposes at the corner of Maple and Elm Streets, and the present church was erected in 1848. It was used until 1868, when repairs and additions were made to the extent of five thousand dollars. The pastors who have served from the organization to the present time are as follows: Revs. — Paull, — Martin, Joseph Nesbitt, James Laverty, Henry B. Townsend, John Symmes and the present pastor, the Rev. William H. Fulton.

St. Matthew's Catholic Church was organized in 1850 by the Rev. Patrick Nugent, pastor of the church at Norristown. A lot was purchased at the corner of Hector and Harry Streets, and a house of worship erected and used without material change until 1865, when an addition was made to the rear, and in 1881 the present front was erected. It is now the largest church edifice in Conshohocken. In 1870 a lot was purchased on Hector Street, and a building, seventy-six by fifty feet, two stories in height, was erected, at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars, which is known as St. Matthew's Parochial School. It contains five hundred pupils, and is under the charge of Edward McDonald and nine assistants. The parish has a membership of two thousand five hundred souls. A cemetery containing two acres of ground, adjoining the borough limits, in Whitmarsh township, is the property of the church. Soon after the organization, in 1850, the Rev. James Maginnis was called to the charge, and remained pastor until 1863. He was succeeded by the present pastor, the Rev. R. Kinahan.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized at this place in 1856 through the exertions of the Rev. Lewis C. Pettit, then pastor of Merion Square

Methodist Episcopal Church, and Joseph Lees, a resident of Mill Creek and a member of that church. They visited this place and held service in the old Temperance Hall. Among the first Methodists in this place were John Major and Caleb Collins. Services were held by the Rev. Mr. Pettit until the Conference of March, 1857, when the congregation was organized and was made a charge, and the Rev. Rufus Owen, D.D., now of Philadelphia, was appointed pastor. The church was erected in that year, and has since been remodeled. Among the pastors who have served since the organization are the Revs. Jerome Lindemuth, W. W. Wythe, George Haycock, John O'Neal, Samuel G. Hare, Rufus Owens, Daniel Patterson, W. C. Johnson, Samuel Pancoast and the present pastor, the Rev. J. T. Miller. The church has a membership of one hundred.

The Calvary Episcopal Church is situated on the corner of Fayette Street and Fourth Avenue. The first service of this denomination was held in Conshohocken on the 25th of July, 1858, in the old school-house (Temperance Hall). The rectors present were the Rev. William H. Reese, Rev. Marmaduke Hurst and the Rev. J. W. Claxton. Service was begun by the Rev. E. L. Lycett, August 15th, in that year, who continued preacher until September 1, 1863. On the 17th of December, 1858, resolutions were passed to organize a parish to be called Calvary Episcopal Church Parish. The first communion service was administered February 27, 1859, to eight communicants. The present church lot was selected; plans for a church were adopted July 19, 1859, and the corner-stone of the edifice was laid on the 25th of August in that year. The church was first used for worship February 19, 1860. It is a one-story stone Gothic structure, and with its parish building, which is now a part of it, presents a picturesque appearance. In 1873 a rectory was erected on the church lot at a cost of four thousand nine hundred dollars, and in 1880 the parish building adjoining the church was built at a cost of nine thousand dollars. In this building is the free library and reading-room. The library now contains about two thousand volumes, including the private library of George Bullock, which was under charge of the parish in December, 1882. The library is circulating and is open two evenings and an afternoon in each week. The reading-room is supplied with the leading periodicals of this country and England and three daily newspapers. It is open three evenings in the week and is well patronized. A chancel was added to the church in 1884, at a cost of six thousand five hundred dollars. The Rev. E. L. Lycett resigned September 1, 1863, and the following are the names of pastors and terms of service from that time: John Tetlow, March 22, 1864, to March, 1866; Thomas S. Yokum, April 1, 1866, to May 31, 1870; T. William Davidson, October 1, 1870, to June 23, 1872; A. E. Tortat, December 1, 1872, to November 14, 1876; James J. Creigh, April 1, 1877, to January 1, 1881;

A. B. Atkins, March 15, 1881. The last is the present rector. The parish has about two hundred and thirty communicants.

The First Baptist Church of Conshohocken was constituted June 10, 1870, with forty-two members. The Rev. J. G. Walker, who was active in the organization, had preached to the people in this place about three years. In 1868, George Nugent, of Norristown, deeded to three trustees a lot in the village for the use of the first Baptist Church when organized. This lot was deeded to trustees of the church soon after they were properly constituted, and the present chapel was erected at a cost of four thousand dollars. A parsonage was erected upon the lot in 1884 at a cost of three thousand five hundred dollars. The pastors who have served the church are as follows: Revs. J. G. Walker, Ebenezer Packwood, H. H. Lemy, T. J. Siegfried and the present pastor, Thomas A. Lloyd.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church has an organization in the place, and the society erected a church edifice in 1881.

The First National Bank was incorporated February 15, 1873; capital, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. George Bullock, president; Evan D. Jones, vice president; and William McDermott, cashier. The Tradesmen's National Bank was organized February 15, 1882, incorporated the following May 1st and commenced business on the 23d. Its capital is one hundred thousand dollars; John Wood, president and William Henry Cresson, vice-president and cashier. They occupied their new building, northeast corner of Fayette and Hector Street, July 5, 1883. The *Weekly Recorder*, William L. Prizer, editor and proprietor, was commenced in February, 1869, and re-established in 1877, the present proprietor having greatly enlarged it. The post-office was established here before 1851.

The Washington Steam Fire-Engine and Hose Company was incorporated February 23, 1874. They now possess two engines and three hose-carriages. One of the latter ranks among the finest in the State, having recently been awarded a premium at the Reading Fair. The engine-house is a creditable building. The association now numbers eighty-one active members. The Washita Hall Association was incorporated May 19, 1868, with a capital of fifteen thousand dollars. Their building is intended for concerts, exhibitions and lectures. It was enlarged in the summer of 1883 at an expense of three thousand dollars. The Matson Ford Bridge Company was incorporated in 1832 and the bridge was completed the following year. On the night of September 2, 1850, it was swept away by a high freshet, but was shortly after rebuilt. In this bridge the county holds stock to the amount of ten thousand eight hundred dollars. It was reconstructed and built of iron in 1872. To the traveler in going across, it affords a fine and interesting view of the scenery up and down the Schuylkill.

There are, besides, in Conshohocken several secret

and beneficial associations. Among these can be mentioned the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, Ancient York Masons, American Protestant Association, Washington Camp of Patriotic Order of the Sons of America, Improved Order of Red Men, Druids, Good Templars, Sons of St. George, Ladies' Philopation, Knights of Birmingham and a German society. There is also a General Smith Post, Grand Army of the Republic, No. 79, Schuylkill Iron-Workers' Beneficial Association and the Corliss Iron-Workers' Association. The last two are composed of employees in the Messrs. Wood's establishments. Gratitude Lodge, of Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, have purchased a lot of ground for thirteen hundred dollars, on which they propose before long to build a hall. The Washita Tribe of Red Men, No. 53, possess a controlling interest in the hall wherein they hold their meetings. There is also a band and a flute and drum corps.

Water is supplied from the river by a Worthington steam-pump to a reservoir or basin on an elevated situation in the rear of the town, on Fayette Street. The first permits for this use were granted November 3, 1873. The offices of the Water and Gas Company are Jawood Lukens, president; Alfred Craft, treasurer; and A. D. Saylor, Alan Wood, Sr., Lewis A. Lukens, Evan D. Jones and William Summers, managers.

As has been stated, Conshohocken is a mile square, and in consequence the streets are laid out quite regular, crossing each other at right angles. Fayette is the main business street, extending from the Schuylkill bridge northeasterly, dividing the borough into two equal parts from which the ground descends in opposite directions. On the upper part of this street are some of the handsomest private residences in the place. It is broad, turnpiked and shady. Washington is the chief manufacturing street, along which the railroad to Norristown passes. Next and parallel comes Elm, Front, after which the avenues are called Second, Third, Fourth and so on in regular order to the northeastern bounds of the borough. The main streets running northeast from the river, beginning on the upper or northwestern side, are Freedly, Wood, Maple, Forest, Fayette, Harry, Hallowell, Wells and Jones. In the southern portion, in addition, are Spring Mill Avenue and Hector, Poplar, Cherry and Apple Streets. The borough was divided into two wards June 12, 1876, the second or lower ward being decidedly the most populous.

The following is a list of those who have served as burgesses since the incorporation, May 15, 1850:

1850, '53. John Wood.	1868. E. S. Tomlinson.
1851-52. John R. Roberts.	1869, '74. James Tracy.
1854-65. Charles A. Ulrick.	1875-76. William Summers.
1856, '62, '63, '64, '70, '71, '72, '73.	1877-78. H. C. Messinger.
William Hallowell.	1879. William F. Smith.
1857. A. D. Saylor.	1880-81. William Henry Cresson.
1858, '67. Frederick Light.	1882-83. Michael O'Brien.
1859, '60, '61. Lewis A. Lukens.	1884. John Field.
1865. Henry Beaver.	1885. Joseph Chrislett.
1866. Evan D. Jones.	

Conshohocken is the name by which the Indians called Edge Hill. We have the evidence of this in the deeds of purchase from them by William Penn, of July 14, 1683, and of July 30, 1685, wherein it is so mentioned as forming one of the boundaries. This range still retains the name on the west side of the Schuylkill, and from thence became applied to this place. Sometime before the Revolution Peter Matson was a land-holder on the opposite side of the river, and on the laying out of roads here the crossing-place, in consequence, became called Matson's Ford, which name was not changed till about 1832, when the town was laid out as "Conshohocken."

During the Revolution the American army crossed the Schuylkill at this place several times. On the 19th of May, 1778, while Lafayette was stationed with a detachment of two thousand one hundred men at Barren Hill, three and a half miles from here, the British attempted to surprise him with a greatly superior force, divided into three divisions. One was led by General Grant and the others by Sir Henry Clinton and General Grey. When the division under Grant had approached within a mile of his rear, Lafayette received the first intelligence of their presence through an officer who had been sent early in the morning to reconnoitre. Thinking his situation critical, he withdrew in haste to this ford, and as the last division of his command was crossing with the artillery, the enemy's advanced parties made their appearance on the bank and fired a volley after them, when a skirmish ensued, in which the Americans lost nine men killed and taken prisoners. The British loss was two light-horsemen killed and several wounded. Lafayette proceeded to the high ground opposite and formed in order of battle, when the divisions under Grant and Clinton made their appearance. These, not deeming it prudent to cross, though they had more than four times the number of men, wheeled round and marched disappointed to the city. In consequence of this affair the old road which led to the ford, and on which this retreat was effected, has been called Fayette Street.

The ground upon which the town was laid out belonged at the time to the Schuylkill Navigation Company, who sold it in square lots, James Wells and John Freedly, of Norristown, being the principal purchasers. David Harry, in 1830, built a grist-mill, which was the first improvement here. For a number of years this mill had a large run of custom, always having a sufficient supply of water from the canal. Trains of farmers' wagons could be seen around it in times of drought waiting for their grists, some of the farmers living ten and fifteen miles distant. At this time there were two farm-houses here, one occupied by Mr. Harry and the other by Cadwallader Foulke. About a year or so afterwards Messrs. Wells and Freedly built a mill for sawing marble, which was obtained from the neighboring quarries; they

did a flourishing business for a number of years. They were followed in 1832 by James Wood, who built and put in operation a rolling-mill, the first in the place. The building of a furnace and foundry here, in 1844, by Stephen Colwell, also materially aided to help on the early progress of the place. In 1832, where is now the large store of William Sommers, corner of Fayette and Hector Streets, stood a cabin in which had lived for some time a colored man called Ned Hector, who had been a team-driver for the army in the Revolution. On laying out the town it thus came that a street was named after him. He died January 3, 1834, aged ninety years, and his wife, Jude, two days thereafter.

Conshohocken had so advanced by 1849 that its inhabitants petitioned the Legislature for an act of incorporation, which was granted the following 15th of May. The commissioners appointed for laying out the borough agreeably to the charter were Isaac Roberts, Joseph Crawford, John M. Jones and L. E. Corson. The bounds were fixed as follows:

"Beginning in the township of Plymouth at low-water mark of the river Schuylkill, at the distance of half a mile, measured on a direct line at right angles from the middle of the Whitemarsh and Plymouth turnpike road, which is on the township line between said townships; thence north forty degrees forty-five minutes east parallel to said turnpike road, over lands of Cadwallader Foulke, John Stemple, Evan Davis and others to a point where the continuation of a certain public road line which now leads into said turnpike at the eastern corner of the farm of James Cresson, and which road is nearly at right angles with said turnpike, if continued northwesterly, would intersect said parallel line first mentioned as running north forty-three degrees east; then from said point southeasterly the course of said road and crossing said turnpike and continuing its course in Whitemarsh, up over lands late of Daniel Harry, deceased, and Isaac Jones' land, one mile to a point on the land of said Isaac Jones; thence on his said land south forty degrees forty-five minutes west to the river Schuylkill aforesaid, and along up said river the several courses thereof to the place of beginning."¹

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

BENJAMIN HARRY.

David Harry, who was probably of Welsh descent, early settled in Montgomery County, where he purchased a tract of twelve hundred and fifty acres of land, a portion of which is now embraced in the borough of Conshohocken, the remainder being in Whitemarsh township. Part of this land is still in possession of the family. Reece Harry, a son of David, born about 1701, who died in 1778, inherited a section of this tract, upon which he resided, subsequently deeding a portion to his son John, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, the former having married Alice Meredith, and had children,—Sarah, whose birth occurred in 1763; Mary, born in 1769; and David, who was born on the 17th of November, 1771, on the paternal estate, and who married Ann, daughter

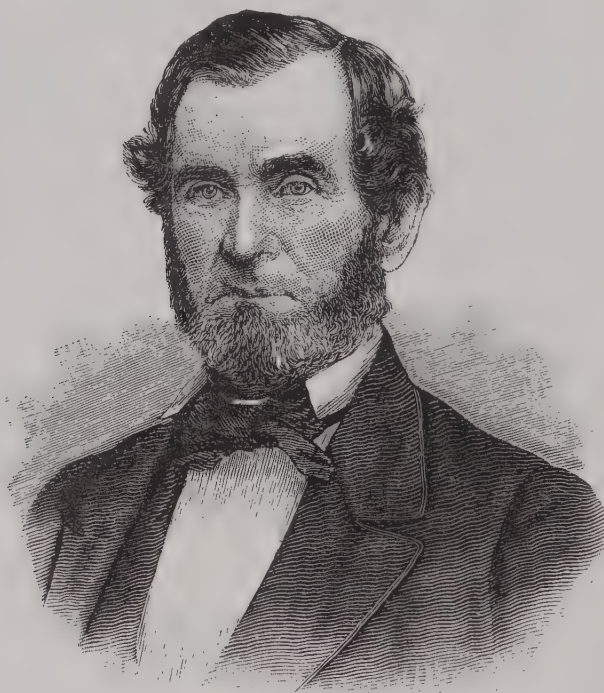
¹ Acknowledgments are due to William Henry Cresson, Esq., of this borough, for information relative to the improvements in the place.

of Thomas Davis and his wife, Lydia White. Their children are Samuel, Benjamin, Reece, Mary (Mrs. Joseph Yerkes) and David, all of whom, with the exception of Benjamin, are deceased. The last mentioned, and subject of this biographical sketch, was born May 16, 1809, on the homestead, which has been the scene of the experiences and incidents of a lifetime. He was educated at the boarding-school of Joseph Foulke, of Gwynedd township, and on the completion of his studies entered the mill of his father, located on the banks of the Schuylkill, for the purpose of acquainting himself with the details of the business. This mill he afterwards successfully managed until

burgess of the borough. He is by birthright a Friend, and worships with the Plymouth Meeting.

JOHN JONES.

Mr. Jones is of Welsh descent. His grandfather, Jonathan Jones, resided upon the land now owned by the subject of this sketch, as did his father before him, both having been enterprising farmers. His children were Isaac, Jonathan, John, Susan, Mary and Ann, of whom only the last-named survives. Isaac Jones was born in 1772, and followed farming pursuits in Conshohocken, having married



B. Harris

the sale of the property. Mr. Harry from this date never engaged in any business undertakings apart from the management of his private interests. He was, in 1836, married to Lydia F. Wood, of Conshohocken, and has children,—David, Anna, James, Mary, Winfield, John. Mrs. Harry is the daughter of James Wood, who established the rolling-mills at Conshohocken, and granddaughter of John Wood, of Plymouth, who was the son of James Wood, one of the earliest settlers of that township. Mr. Harry's political principles have been those of the Whig and Republican parties. He has frequently been solicited to accept office, but has invariably declined, though on one occasion elected to the honorable position of

Elizabeth Yerkes, daughter of John and Nancy Coffin Yerkes. Their children are John, William, Jonathan, Isaac, Charles, Susan, Elizabeth and Ann. Mr. Jones was married, a second time, to Rachel Foster, and, a third time, to Martha Lukens. His death occurred June 13, 1868, in his ninety-seventh year. John Jones was born December 18, 1795, on the homestead where his youth, until his twenty-first year, was spent. He received his education, in those early days necessarily limited, in the immediate neighborhood and at Plymouth, afterwards engaging in labor on the farm of his father, which then embraced a very large portion of the present borough of Conshohocken. He subsequently removed to a farm purchased by his

father in Upper Merion township, which he cultivated for a period of six years. In 1819, Mr. Jones married Martha, daughter of Joseph and Ann Lukens, of King of Prussia, whose death occurred January 18, 1883. Their children are Joseph L., of Philadelphia; Isaac, of Illinois; William H., of Philadelphia; Rachel (Mrs. John Webster), of Chester County, Pa.; Elizabeth (Mrs. James T. Lukens, of Philadelphia; Mary, of Conshohocken; Edwin, also of Conshohocken; George W., of Minneapolis, Minn.; Sallie (Mrs. Ephraim Fenton), of Abington; and Charlotte, (Mrs. Daniel Lukens), of Chester County.

regarded as the pioneer in the business of milk shipping in the State, having shipped the first can of milk to Philadelphia by rail in 1847.

CHAPTER XLII.

BOROUGH OF EAST GREENVILLE.

THE borough of East Greenville was incorporated September 6, 1875. Its area, about one hundred and



Em Jones

Mr. Jones, after a residence of some years in other parts of Montgomery County and elsewhere, returned to Conshohocken in 1852 and took possession of the homestead, since that date his home. In 1861, he retired, after a long life of industry, his son Edward assuming the management of the farm, which he cultivated until 1868, when the land was divided into town lots and sold for building purposes. Mr. Jones has always been either a Whig or a Republican in politics, but has never sought nor accepted office. He has since his youth worshiped with the Society of Friends, having been admitted to membership when fourteen years of age. Mr. Jones may justly be

eighty acres was wholly taken from Upper Hanover township. The assessed value of real estate at the time of its creation was eighty-two thousand and thirty dollars. It contained at that date ninety-four taxables, and upwards of fifty residences, all of them recently built. The land formerly belonged to George Urffer; upon his death it descended to Daniel Y. Urffer, who in April, 1849, sold forty-three acres of the tract to Captain Henry H. Dotts; it was timber land at the time of this sale. The wood-leaf was sold, the land cleared and that portion fronting on the highway divided into building-lots. During the years of 1851-52, Mr. Dotts sold a number of the lots at an

advance. On a four-acre lot, at the corner of Church road, he erected a two-story brick dwelling, and subsequently sold it for twelve hundred dollars, Mr. Dotts continued building and selling, and later erected the large three-story hotel now occupied by Charles P. Keely. Stores and mechanical industries followed the line of improvements, and the village became a new creation, rivaling the older claims of Pensburg, a mile or more eastward. The project of building up a village at this point was partly due to the construction of the Green Lane and Goshenhoppen turnpike road, which was opened to travel in 1851. The village received a further impetus in 1864, when some forty additional acres of land belonging to the original Urffer estate came into the market by the death of Mrs. Frey, a daughter of George Urffer, deceased. The tract was cut up into lots and sold to persons who built upon them. Philip Super, Esq., in his account of the Perkiomen Valley, writing of this village says: "To show the gradual rise in the price of land from the original price of seventy-five dollars per acre in 1851-52, we give the prices at which lots were sold during subsequent years up to the present time. The first of the original half-acre lots were sold in January, 1853, for fifty dollars, and resold in May of the same year for seventy-five dollars; in June of the same year, Mr. Dotts repurchased a half-acre lot for ninety-five dollars; in March, 1855, he again purchased half an acre for one hundred and twenty-five dollars; in March, 1856, an acre lot was sold for one hundred and sixty-five dollars; in September, 1857, a quarter-acre lot was sold for one hundred and thirty-five dollars; and in 1859 a half-acre lot was sold for two hundred dollars.

"The original lots, of from two to four acres each, with which the place started in 1851, have been divided and sold in smaller ones; at the present time there are but few lots in the place having more than fifty feet front. The village received its name in 1852, which appears to have been suggested by a tall pine-tree, with an evergreen top, and which is observable from all parts of the surrounding country. This 'old pine tree, with an evergreen top,' has become historical, if not immortal; from it a village takes its name, and a Greenville post-office is announced upon the post-office directory of Christendon—a fortunate tree, differing in no essential, save in its location, from hundreds of its kind that fell before the sturdy axemen of the Honovers."

This very pretty village is beautifully located, the elevation commanding an extended view of the valley and distant hills. The landscape is in every sense pastoral; cultivated farms, browsing cattle, green meadows, crystal streams, shaded homes, huge barns, ancient mills and steepled churches, with whitened graveyards, complete the rural and attractive picture. Only the screaming whistle of engines, and racing trains of cars, as they spin along a back street of the town, breaks the prevailing country

quiet of the place. The main street or highway is well-kept, the sidewalks are curbed and paved, shade-trees, flowers and trailing vines ornament the neat and substantial residences that front upon the main thoroughfare. The borough has the characteristic thrift and commercial enterprise common to all railroad towns in the country. Among the merchants may be named Henry Bobb, drugs; Fluck & Bernhard, live stock; Nicholas Kase, boots and shoes; William Kehl, merchandise; A. E. Kurtz, stoves; Keeley & Brother, coal, lumber, flour and feed; Levi Meschler, merchandise; Edwin E. Steltz, furniture; E. M. Stauffer, jeweler. The mechanical industries are represented by the village blacksmith, and carriage-builder. The manufacture of cigars is largely carried on here, the first to introduce the business being Amos K. Stauffer, who began in 1860, William K. Stauffer in 1865, and Daniel Dimmig and Thomas K. Gerhard about 1870. There are now carrying on the business in this place Amos K. Stauffer, Thomas K. Gerhard, William M. Jacobs, H. A. Dimmig and several others who have smaller establishments. These firms employ about one hundred and twenty persons, and manufacture about nine million cigars annually.

The Evangelical Association of East Greenville was organized about sixty years ago. A lot was purchased for a house of worship and burial-place on the road leading from East Greenville to Krousdale. A house of worship was built and used until 1873, when the present brick edifice was erected on Main Street, in East Greenville. Prior to the erection of these church buildings the congregation existed, worshipping in the spacious houses of the farmers who made up its numbers. The pastors who served at the old church from 1838 to 1873 are as follows: Revs. Isaac Hess, Daniel Wieand, A. Ziegenfuss, Edmund Butz, R. M. Lichtenwollner, A. F. Leopold, C. K. Fehr, John Schell, Franklin Sechert and Reuben Deisher. Those who served from 1873 to the present time are Revs. G. Sharf, David Lentz, Henry Klick, Solomon Ely and Jeremiah Fehr, the present pastor. The church has a present membership of twenty-three.

The public schools of the borough are in advance of those of the township, out of which it has been carved. They are taught during the term of seven months in the year; male and female teachers are employed at salaries of from thirty-two to thirty-eight dollars per month. There are one hundred and four pupils enrolled for the year 1884. Population in 1880, 331; number of taxables 1884, 128; value of improved land, \$166,321; unimproved, \$3850; forty-three horses valued at \$3655; thirty-five cattle valued at \$955; total value of property taxable for county purposes, \$192,476.

Burgesses: 1875, Charles K. Lorentz; 1876, C. W. Wieand; 1877, William H. Kehl; 1878, Daniel Roeder; 1879, N. B. Keely; 1881, John Hirsh; 1882-83, F. L. Fluck; 1884, Jacob M. Knetz; 1885, Jacob M. Knetz.

CHAPTER XLIII.

BOROUGH OF GREEN LANE.

GREEN LANE BOROUGH was incorporated by decree of the Court of Quarter Sessions December 10, 1875, and was carved out of Marlborough township. It contains an area of about one hundred and fifty-four acres. The boundaries are irregular, and were made to conform to the wishes of the owners of adjoining farms, who were hostile to being included in the proposed borough limits.

The Perkiomen Railroad passes through the village, which is located at the convergence of three turnpike roads,—the Spring House, constructed in 1848; the Perkiomen, open to public travel in 1849; and the Green Lane and Goshenhoppen turnpike, completed in 1851. The place contains a hotel, store, railroad station, school-house and upwards of fifty dwellings. There is also a grist-mill, smith-shop and a large ice house, located on the Perkiomen. In 1875 there were fifty-six taxable persons assessed, and the real estate was valued at forty-one thousand three hundred and fourteen dollars. It is distant from Philadelphia forty-three miles and eighteen miles from the Perkiomen Junction, on the Reading Railroad. The entire area of this borough rests upon the old Mayberry title, taken about 1730, being the same referred to in the account of Marlborough township. The derivation of the name of the village is from the Old Forge, or "Green Lane Iron-Works," noted on the oldest maps of the county, and it is believed to have been given to the works named from the prevailing foliage covering the rocky hills to the north and west of the stream, it being largely of evergreen, with occasional pine, and from the narrow and tortuous road or lane that led from the main highway around the base of the hills to the forge. The locality was noted thirty or forty years ago for wild game, and sportsmen resorting there found pheasants, partridges and rabbits in abundance, and the ancient villagers gave generous welcome to the liberal "spendthrift gunners," whose annual pilgrimage thither was impatiently waited for by the expectant guides, who earned handsome fees for easy service in piloting these hunters and their dogs over and around the hills. The place was early and widely known as the location of the iron forge referred to. The fine water-power and abundance of wood, its easy conversion into charcoal, afforded unusual facilities for the manufacture of iron and for many years the best blooms in the market were produced at this place. Hammered iron long preceded rolled iron for general smithing purposes, and the produce of the forge found a ready market. In those days the country blacksmith purchased his bar-iron at the forge, and converted it into the hardware used in the building of houses, from the wrought nails in the floors to the hinges and latches of the doors. Iron was a com-

modity that fifty years ago was fashioned into a thousand useful forms by the village smith which are now produced by the foundry and with the aid of improved machinery, and sold by the village store-keeper. The transition has changed the face of affairs at this old village. The forge has long since gone into decay; the old water-wheel, the huge bellows, the ore-crushers, the cone-like charcoal kilns, the famous teams and teamsters who made their weekly trips "to town" and back, the stage exchange stables, the huntsman and his hounds, the system of barter and exchange that prevailed at the country store,—these have all been displaced by the changes wrought in the last quarter of a century, and Green Lane has become a railroad village differing in no essential from a dozen others which make the Perkiomen Valley so charming from Treichlersville to the Schuylkill River.

The public or common school in this borough is open for seven months in the year, and the wages paid the teacher is thirty-three dollars per month. The post-office is located here, and the railroad depot for passengers and freight brings to the village the general trade of an industrious and providential community.

Mercantile appraiser's return for 1884: Merchandise, J. R. Allebach; live stock, Frank Frederick; lumber, H. N. Scholl; flour and feed, H. N. Scholl; Number of taxables, 1884, 54; value of improved land \$74,400; value of unimproved land, \$5685; value of horses, \$2015; value of cattle, \$670; total value of taxable property for county purposes, \$91,210.

CHAPTER XLIV.

BOROUGH OF HATBORO'.

THIS borough was incorporated August 26, 1871, and contains an area of about six hundred acres, taken wholly from Moreland township. Its extreme length from north to south is one and a half miles; greatest breadth, three-fourths of a mile; and extends on the Bucks County line nearly half said distance. The main part of the town is situated along the old York road, which is now called York Avenue, opened through from Philadelphia to the present Centre Bridge in the fall of 1711. The Hatboro' and Warminster turnpike was completed in 1850, and extends from the Willow Grove to the Street road, a distance of four and a half miles. This improvement is laid on the bed of the old York road, which extends through the whole length of the borough, dividing it very nearly into two equal portions. The Northeast Pennsylvania Railroad is a branch of the North Pennsylvania road, and commences at Abington Station and extends to Hartsville, a distance of nearly

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

ten miles. It was commenced in 1872 and opened for travel December 18th of that year to the county line, and in 1875 extended to Hartsville, its present terminus. The Hatboro' Station is six and four-fifths miles from Abington, three from Hartsville and sixteen from Philadelphia. Fulmor Station, near its southern extremity, is also within the borough limits. Five passenger-trains pass through here daily to Philadelphia.

The place is progressing, and now contains two hotels, two drug, one boot and shoe, one hardware one jewelry and clothing, two confectionery, one furniture and three general stores. There are, besides, two carriage manufactories, two blacksmith-shops, one wheelwright, two tin-shops, two bakers, one machine-shop, two merchant flour-mills, one livery-stable, one lumber and two coal-yards. According to the census of 1880 it contained five hundred and eighty-six inhabitants. The assessment for 1883 returned two hundred and twenty-four taxables and four hundred and sixteen thousand eight hundred and ninety-five dollars as the amount of taxable property. The means for education have not been neglected, and in this respect it has enjoyed unusual advantages for a long time. The library was founded in 1755, and now contains over ten thousand volumes and has one hundred and forty-six members. The academy was built in 1811-12 from the proceeds of a bequest from Judge Loller. The public schools are held in this building, and for the year ending June 1, 1882, had an average attendance of seventy-nine pupils for ten months. The post-office now possesses two daily communications with Philadelphia. The national bank was established here shortly after the incorporation of the borough, with a capital of sixty thousand dollars. Its present officers are Hon. I. N. Evans, president; Justice Mitchell, vice-president; and James Vanhorn, cashier. Three public halls are in the place. Loller Lodge of Independent Order of Odd-Fellows own a three-story stone building, in which they hold their meetings, which was erected in 1851 and dedicated October 9th of said year. The W. K. Bray Lodge of Masons meet in Jones' Hall. The Patriotic Sons of America also possess an organization.

The name of the place is said to be derived from one of the first stone houses built here, which was about 1705, and in which, shortly after, John Dawson followed for many years his occupation of making hats. This building likewise became a tavern, and had for its sign a crooked billet, suggested by a popular inn then kept in Water Street, Philadelphia. It stood near the centre of the present town, on the old York road, where is now the dwelling-house of Oliver Watson, and into which, on being modernized, a portion was incorporated. We know from records that John Dawson was still residing here in 1734 on a lot of three acres, and that a Daniel Dawson at that time owned four acres. The earliest mention of the name we have found is on Lewis Evans' map of Pennsylvania

and the adjoining provinces, published in 1749, where it is called "Hatboro'," precisely as it is now written. In an advertisement in Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette* of October 12, 1752, it is mentioned as the "Crooked Billet." The library records in 1755 call it "Hatborough," and the meetings are mentioned as being held at the house of "David Reese, at ye Crooked Billet." Our next authority in the order of time is Nicholas Scull's map of Pennsylvania, published in 1759, on which it is "Billet;" the same also on William Scull's map of 1770. Washington, in his letter to Congress from this vicinity, dated August 10, 1777, mentions therein the "Billet tavern." General Lacy, in his correspondence of 1778, calls the place "Crooked Billet," as also Majors Simcoe and Stedman, who were British officers in the skirmish here. Reading Howell, in his township map of 1792, calls it "Hatborough," and also Joseph Scott, in his *Gazetteer* of 1795. Now, carefully considering these several authorities, we come to the conclusion that the proper name of the place or village from the beginning was Hatboro', and by the Billet or Crooked Billet was more particularly meant the tavern that had here this sign, which conclusion is sustained by the library records and Washington's correspondence.

A road was laid out from Byberry to Horsham in 1720 and passes through the central part of Hatboro'. That portion east of York Avenue has been called Byberry Avenue, and that extending westward Moreland Avenue. The county line road, leading from the present toll-gate to Græme Park, was laid out in 1722. As the York road was opened through here still earlier, it would denote that some settlement in and around here must then have been made. David Reese, whom we know kept the tavern here in 1759, had a daughter, Rebecca, married to John Hart, of Warminster. Jacob Tomkins kept a store in 1761; the following year the library was removed to his house, and for some time he performed the duties of librarian, secretary and treasurer. In 1776 he was taxed for fifty-six acres, which would indicate that he also carried on farming. In the fall of 1786, William Todd purchased Tomkins' share in the library, when it is probable he removed from the neighborhood. Abraham Duffield, in 1784, kept a public-house in the lower part of the village, to which the library was soon after removed, and where it remained for some time. John J. Marple became the proprietor of this inn and kept it at least from 1814 to 1825. He was postmaster in 1816. This office is stated to have been established here about 1809, chiefly through the exertions of the Hon. N. B. Boileau. In an advertisement of Mr. Marple's property, in 1825, it is described as containing "a large two-story house, sixty by forty feet," two barns and sixty-one acres of land. In 1813 the polling places of Moreland and Horsham were removed here from Abington, and continued until after 1828. These were at the stand now known as Jones' Hotel.

Colonel John Lacy, of Bucks County, was commissioned a brigadier-general January 8, 1778, and to him was given the command of the militia between the rivers Schuylkill and Delaware. His orders were to watch the enemy, to protect the inhabitants and prevent further intercourse between the British and the country and cut off all supplies designed for their use. To carry out these measures he was stationed at Warwick about the middle of January, on the 23d at Græne Park and next at the Cross-Roads (now Harts-ville). From the latter place he proceeded to Hatboro', where he formed his camp on the Byberry road, about half a mile east of the village. He received here four hundred men from York and Cumberland Counties, which made his forces amount to about four hundred and fifty men, who were poorly supplied with arms and ammunition, suffering at times severely for provisions, and often only two days' allowance in camp. As he had been pretty active in cutting off supplies going to the city, as well as arresting the parties concerned therein, it was determined by the British to effect his capture in the night through information received from spies resident in the vicinity. Early on the morning of May 1, 1778, a detachment of the British army from Philadelphia, composed chiefly of American loyalists, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Abercrombie and Major Simcoe, made a sudden attack on the camp, in which about thirty Americans were killed and seventeen wounded. The British loss was trifling,—some six or seven men were wounded, five horses found dead and three captured. During the skirmish some of the wounded were either conveyed to, or sought shelter in, a heap of buckwheat straw, to which the enemy set fire, and perished in the greatest agony. They soon after hastily retreated to the city, when the dead were collected and placed in one grave on the north side of the County Line road, near what has been long known as Wood's Corner. A handsome white marble monument, twenty feet high, was erected on the east side of York Avenue, on an elevated site, by the citizens of the neighborhood in 1861, in commemoration of those who lost their lives in this attack.

Mills must have been early established here on the Pennypack. Nicholas Scull mentions on his map Dungworth's mill beside the York road in 1759. This property in 1787 was owned by Mordecai Thomas, who was taxed for one hundred and ninety-four acres of land, four dwellings and a grist-mill. In 1808 he had erected here a mill for carding wool, which was for some time extensively carried on. For a long period Hatboro' has been noted for its wagon and carriage-making establishments. John Paxson advertised in 1807 that he had a two-story stone coach-shop, thirty by twenty feet, a blacksmith-shop, thirty by eighteen feet, and a harness making shop, thirty-six by sixteen feet, with other buildings essential to the business. At a meeting in September, 1814, a company of fifty-two was raised here for the war with England, of which

Alexander McClean was elected captain and Thomas L. Boileau first lieutenant. During the Revolution Hatboro' is stated to have contained about eighteen houses, one-half of which were built of logs, a tavern, store, a mill and blacksmith-shop. Scott, in his "Gazetteer" of 1795, mentions it as containing about twenty houses and a library of a thousand volumes. In 1850 it contained three hundred and four inhabitants, about fifty-six houses, three stores, two taverns, two merchant flour-mills, two churches, academy, library and several mechanic shops.

About a quarter of a mile east of the town, on the north side of the Byberry road, stood a small one-story stone school-house, supposed to have been built about 1730. Here, in 1768, N. B. Boileau first went to school. After the erection of the academy, in 1812, this was ordered to be sold, with the lot of ground belonging thereto. One-half the proceeds were given to the academy, and the balance towards the erection of a new school-house on the land of Isaac Pickering, about a mile distant on the county line, and near its intersection with the Newtown road. The venerable building alluded to, after being sold, was converted into a dwelling-house, and stood till about 1862, when it was torn down, and the spot is now under cultivation, with nothing to denote its former existence.

From the report of the grand jury in 1773 we learn that the York road passed over the Pennypack Creek by a bridge, which they state "is now very much out of repair and should be repaired at the expense of the county, in consequence of its being so public a road." It may have been at this time temporarily improved, but we doubt that much more was done to it. However, in 1789 the whole structure was torn away and a new one of stone erected in its place by the county, about twenty-four yards above the present bridge. The late George Kenderdine informed us that he remembered it well, and that it consisted of one arch of an exact semicircular form of twenty-four feet span, and that when built it was considered a marvel of workmanship. It possessed short abutments, or wing-walls, making it high in the centre, and which made the travel over it difficult. When the stream became high the water would flow around it, thus rendering it at times extremely unpleasant to cross, especially for those afoot. It was only half the length of the present bridge and not of sufficient width to let wagons pass each other. The master-mason and probable architect was Stephen Love, who fancied its only arch the perfection of skill. An act was passed April 6, 1830, for James M. Porter, Samuel Hart and John H. Hill to view and lay out the York road down to the Willow Grove. When they came to the Pennypack they directed the road to be laid further down so as to materially straighten it in a distance of two hundred yards. It was on this route that the present substantial bridge was built in 1824, which possesses three arches, each of eighteen feet span. The date-stone of the former bridge having

been inserted in this one, has led persons to believe that the present structure was built in 1789. A tradition exists that just before the arch of the previous bridge was completed, a person residing in the vicinity ran his horse over it safely at one prodigious leap, for the honor, as he said, of being the first to pass over it.

There is reason to believe that the first newspaper published anywhere in the lower portion of Montgomery County, outside of Norristown, was *The Literary Chronicle*, issued weekly by Oliver I. Search, at Hatboro', in the beginning of June, 1840. The size of its sheet was twenty-two by thirty-two inches, with six columns to a page. It was published on Tuesdays, at two dollars per annum, in a building adjoining the upper hotel. About April, 1842, or after it had existed one year and ten months, Mr. Search removed the establishment to Newtown, where it was continued under several names until 1848. The second attempt at newspaper publishing in Hatboro' was by Dr. Wm. T. Robinson, September 7, 1873, when the *Public Spirit* commenced its career on a sheet twenty-four by twenty-eight inches in size, and a few years thereafter it was enlarged to its present dimensions. It is published every Saturday, and has now attained its eleventh year with a good circulation. From a few numbers of *The Literary Chronicle* we ascertain that in 1841 the following persons were in business in Hatboro': Lukens Wakefield and David Titus, coach and house-painters; Abraham Haslett, smith; Hiram Reading, store; Charles Wakefield, tailor; G. W. Gilbert, wheelwright; H. N. Smith, boot and shoemaker; and O. I. Search, job printing.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was the first erected in the place. The corner-stone was laid September 8, 1836, on which occasion Rev. David Bartine preached; it was dedicated May 22, 1837. It was a plain stone edifice, forty by fifty feet in dimensions, and the parsonage was built at the expense of Joseph and Deborah Lehman, and by them presented to the congregation. The church cost two thousand seven hundred dollars and the parsonage two thousand one hundred dollars. Mr. Lehman died November 11, 1845, aged eighty-one years and Deborah, his wife, April 4, 1841, aged seventy-four, both being interred under one large flat stone beside the church. In 1879 the congregation determined on rebuilding it after a Gothic design, to which a steeple is attached. The lot of ground contains about one and a half acres, is neatly inclosed and well-shaded. The building and grounds are kept in neat order and are an ornament to the town. It is called Lehman Chapel, and is situated on the west side of York Avenue, but a short distance above the Pennypack bridge. Rev. M. A. Day was appointed to this charge in March, 1883, as successor to Rev. Peter Cox. On the tombstones in the graveyard are found the names of Wood, Murray, Wilson, Bisbing, Eisenbrey, Meyers, Moore, Kenderdine, Sutch, Wakefield, Cline, Mottershead, Stewart, Ben-

ninghoff, Arnold, Fisher, Coar, Chilcott, Tudor, Emerson, Perry, King, Bower, Fesmire, Torpin, Bush, Sisty, Beans, Goentner, Maxwell, Christopher and McDowell.

The Baptist Church is located on the east side of York Avenue, near the upper part of the town. It is of stone, forty by sixty feet in dimensions, and surmounted by a spire ninety feet high. The congregation was organized in September, 1835, and held worship in Loller Academy until the erection of the building. The corner-stone was laid September 5, 1839, and the church was dedicated January 16, 1840, and cost eleven hundred dollars. In 1855 it was deemed insufficient for the accommodation of the worshipers and the present more commodious edifice was erected at an expense of upwards of four thousand dollars. At the laying of the corner-stone, May 22nd of that year, the Rev. Daniel Dodd preached. The pastors in charge from the beginning have been Rev. William Maule, J. P. Walton, Mathew Semple, J. J. Baker, Samuel J. Creswell, Lewis Smith, Theophilus Jones, George Hand from May, 1852, to January 1, 1862; Thomas R. Taylor, July, 1862, until his death, in April, 1863; William S. Wood, from the autumn of 1863 to about the close of 1867; Isaac C. Wynn, February 8, 1868, to June, 1870; George Bowman, September, 1870, to April, 1879; I. Blanchard Hutchinson, September 1879 to the present time. About one hundred and eighty members belong to the congregation, to which are also attached four Sunday-schools, with thirty teachers and two hundred and twenty scholars. The church premises comprise upwards of two acres of ground, on which is a two-story stone parsonage and a sexton's house. The entrance to the church is approached through a fine, shady avenue of maples. The graveyard is to the rear and is of ample size. On the numerous stones around are found the names of Fretz, Bitting, Martin, Scott, Lester, Sutch, Yerkes, Craven, Lukens, Search, Johnson, Meredith, Snyder, Haslet, Kimbell, Vanartsdalen, Booskirk, Rover, Margerum, Stockdale, Robbins, Lower, Dean, Taylor, Hill, Beans, Ashton, Swartz, McNair, Baine, Marple, James, Hay, Hobensack, Evans, Morgan, Humphreys, Davis, McDowell, Mathew and Eisenbrey.

The cemetery is located on the north bank of the Pennypack, to the east of York Avenue. The grounds comprise about twenty-one acres. In 1882 a two-story house was built for the residence of the superintendent, and a chapel and gateway erected of stone. The interments up to October 1, 1883, have numbered ninety. The cemetery association was organized in 1876 and incorporated March 17, 1877. A street has since been opened along its whole northern boundary rendering it convenient of approach from several directions. The ground is elevated and ascends with sufficient slope from the stream to be of easy drainage. The whole has been inclosed and handsomely divided into sections and plots fronting on its several avenues and walks that extend in various directions. Though

but a comparatively few years have elapsed since this cemetery was laid out, yet numbers have availed themselves of its privileges in purchasing lots, as may be seen by the graves of those since buried here, ornamented with flowers and neat tombstones and railings around. A stroll here affords a view of a rich productive and improving country, diversified with beautiful scenery, adorned with comfortable homes and inhabited by an intelligent people. In sight is Huckleberry Hill, Edge Hill, Sampson's Hill, Horseheaven, the place of Lacey's defeat and the Pennypack which need only be mentioned to revive legendary and historical associations.

Robert Loller resided in the house now occupied by the principal of the academy. In early life he was a school-teacher, and followed subsequently the business of surveying and conveyancing. He was married to Mary, the daughter of Archibald McClean, of Horsham. In 1776 he was chosen one of the deputies of the county to frame and adopt a new State Constitution. He soon after joined the army of Washington, and was in the battles of Trenton, Princeton and Germantown. He became a colonel in the army, a member of the library in 1787, member of Assembly and associate judge of the county for many years. He died October 21, 1808, aged sixty-eight years. Through his bequest the academy was built in 1811-12 on his estate, and handsomely endowed.

In the lower part of the present borough, adjoining Loller Academy, long resided Nathaniel B. Boileau, a native of the vicinity, and a son of Isaac Boileau. He was a graduate of Princeton College, a member of Assembly, in 1808 chosen Speaker of that body, and for nine years Secretary of State to Governor Simon Snyder. In 1836 he was appointed register of wills for the county. He was personally acquainted with John Fitch, the steamboat inventor, who was a frequent visitor to his father's house. He was also the executor of Judge Loller's estate, and superintended the erection of the academy. He died March 16, 1850, in his eighty-eighth year.

By a popular vote, in the spring of 1884, authorized by an act of Assembly passed the previous year, it was decided that a pavement seven feet wide be laid along each side of York Avenue. The borough paid the damages occasioned in carrying out this measure, in the removal of buildings, etc. We cannot leave this subject without expressing a regard for the memory of George Kenderdine, the first burgess of the town and a resident the third of a century. He was a native of Horsham, a millwright by profession and an ingenuous man, modest, unassuming and friendly in his intercourse and ever disposed for the advancement of the general good. He died February 8, 1883, at the close of an useful life.

The Union Library.—An institution that was established one hundred and thirty years ago for the dissemination of useful knowledge in this county and has flourished ever since certainly merits some notice

in a historical work of this nature. At the date of its origin there could not have been above eight or nine public libraries in the thirteen colonies, of which two had been established in Philadelphia. To show the enterprise of its projectors at this time and the sparseness of population, Hatboro' could not have then contained above a dozen houses, and it is probable that in this respect it was not surpassed by any village within a distance of ten miles. In a country so new and unsettled, and at a time when book publishing was almost unknown here and the people compelled to import most of the books they did get, and at high prices, it certainly required some effort and pecuniary sacrifice, to establish such a library. We should remember, too, that it was at a gloomy period in the history of Pennsylvania; war existed with the French and the Indians, and the latter were massacring hundreds of the inhabitants within a distance of sixty miles. Indeed, so intent were they on its establishment that the first meeting called for the purpose was only ten days after Braddock's defeat, which, with all the appalling results, did not deter or prevent them from prosecuting the matter so vigorously that it soon became a success.

The circumstances under which the library was founded are thus set forth in its proceedings: "Whereas dark ignorance, with all the concomitants that flow from it, did about this time prevail in these parts, and no general scheme on foot for the promotion of knowledge and virtue, this, by some of the thinking part of the people, was looked upon with concern, and some proposals were made for executing a public library of select books as the most likely way to expel those gloomy clouds of ignorance and open profaneness so much abounding, and give the gentle reader an agreeable taste for learning. However, nothing was done towards the formation thereof until the beginning of the summer of 1755, when the same came to be seriously considered on the 19th of July, when a meeting of conference was held on the premises by the Rev. Charles Beatty, Rev. Joshua Potts, John Lukens and Joseph Hart, when a plan for establishing the same was unanimously agreed upon. Public notice was then given to all persons willing or desirous to promote said library that they should meet at David Rees', at ye Crooked Billet, the second day of August, for establishing the same," on which occasion the plan was read and approved and signed by the several members, who were required to meet the first Saturday in November to choose officers and make their first payment.

The "Instrument of Partnership," as it was called, was signed by Charles Beatty, Joshua Potts, Jonathan Du Bois, Joseph Hart, John Lukens, Isaac Hough, David Rees, David Davis, William Loufburrow, John Thomas, John Watts, Joseph Dilworth, Abel Dungan, Peter Lukens, Thomas Potts, Samuel Swift, Joseph Dungan, Silas Yerkes, John Jarret, Daniel Thomas, John Shoemaker, Samuel Irwin, Isaac

Shoemaker, Jacob Cadwallader, Benjamin Powers, James Vansant, Peter Craven, Job Lancaster, Nathan Bewly, Clement Dungan, Samuel Shoemaker, John Bartolet, Alexander Edwards, John Jones and Joseph Gilbert, who may therefore be considered the original members and founders of the same. The number is thirty-five,—certainly quite a favorable beginning,—and the residence of each was probably within a distance of four miles of Hatboro'. There is no doubt that the aforesaid list composed the most intelligent and respectable persons of the neighborhood and, as far as we know, they were all holders of real estate.

The Instrument of Partnership states the title to be "the Union Library Company of Hatbourrough, in the Mannor of Moorland, in the county of Philadelphia, in the Province of Pennsylvania;" that it was agreed upon "The Second day of August, in the Twentyninth year of the Reign of our Sovereign, Lord George the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, etc." It was thereby ordered that the yearly meetings should be held on the first Saturday in November, the first payment for each member to be twenty shillings, and from thence forward at every annual meeting ten shillings, "and no less, it being for the purchasing a collection of books and defraying all other necessary charges of said library, and for no other use whatever," the directors to have the charge of all the company's effects, affairs and the buying of books and general management of the library, for which purpose they were to meet every three months. The library was to be open on every other Saturday afternoon, commencing with the yearly meeting, and no book was permitted to be taken out if under a quarto in size longer than four weeks, if larger from eight to twelve weeks. Section 16th contains this provision: "Provided always that no supplement, addition or article whatsoever shall be made or become in force which may divide or alienate the books and effects of said library company aforesaid, but forever, and from time to time to be and remain the undistinguishable property of the members of the Union Library Company from time to time being, according to the true intent of this our present Instrument of Partnership."

At the annual meeting held November 1, 1755, John Jarret, Samuel Erwin and Joseph Hart were elected directors, William Loofbourrow, secretary, and Daniel Thomas, treasurer. At the directors' meeting held on December 19th the sum of £44 7s. was given in charge to the Rev. Charles Beatty, who was directed to send the catalogue of books ordered to the stationer in London, who was to secure the same. At this meeting a gift of four pounds was received from Hon. Lawrence Growdon, £1 7s. from John Lukens, and one pound from John Ross, Esq. At the meeting of the directors, held August 14, 1756, announcement was made that the books sent for had safely come to hand, and were placed in a room in Mr. Potts' house, where they would be delivered for the use of the

members. In August, 1757, John Lukens was authorized to make a purchase of books to the extent of ten pounds, which were bought on the following November 5th. On this occasion £19 19s. 6d. were given to Mr. Beatty for an additional purchase in London, "which he was ordered to get insured." These were received October 24, 1758, and were found to be "much damaged on shipboard from water." At the meeting held February 10, 1759, the secretary was permitted to hire out books, the charge for large folios being eighteen pence, quartos one shilling, and all smaller volumes sixpence. This year the yearly payments, loans and fines amounted to £13 10s. The secretary, Joshua Potts, was allowed one pound for the use of the room and attendance. May 10, 1760, books were purchased of Charles Beatty to the amount of £6 7s., and as he was going to England, he was requested to make an additional purchase there. Labels were ordered to be printed and placed in the books.

Joseph Galloway having presented four volumes through the hands of Joseph Hart, the directors, in return, sent him their thanks, wherein they say "you may depend not only on our endeavour to perpetuate the utility of this institution, but the memory of all its benefactors also." James Young, of Philadelphia, desired to know through his friend, John Erwin, the full value of a share in the library. This was rated at £3 10s. The payments, loans and fines November 7, 1761, amounted to £14 10s. 9d. David Rees made the generous offer that for ten shillings he would give a year's attendance as librarian and do the advertising, on condition that the directors speedily secure a bookcase for the books, which they consented to do. In the fall of 1762 a catalogue was prepared, from which we learn that the library contained one hundred and twenty-five works, comprised in two hundred and thirty-nine volumes, and had cost £124 13s. 2d., of which amount £3 8s. 1d. had been paid for freight and insurance from England. David Rees having died May 31st of this year, aged forty-nine years, the books were removed in November to the house of Jacob Tomkins, the secretary. A handsome donation of books having been made in November, 1763, by Dr. Thomas Græme and Elizabeth, his daughter, of Græme Park, thanks were returned therefor.

The newly-printed catalogue was brought in by the directors August 4, 1768, from which we learn that the library now contained two hundred works, in four hundred and sixty-one volumes. Du Hamel's "Husbandry," the gift of Hon. Thomas Penn, was deposited in the library May 5, 1770. February 22, 1771, the forfeited share of John Watts was sold at public sale, and purchased by Arthur Watts, of Southampton, for three pounds, being equivalent to eight dollars of our present currency. David Hall, of Philadelphia, was paid £22 6s. 3d. for books purchased from him. November 2, 1776, the company met and chose for directors Isaac Cadwallader, Daniel Longstreth and Abraham Lukens; Daniel Thomas, secretary and

Jacob Tomkins, treasurer. It was agreed to omit the annual payment, and as David Kennedy had generously offered the company the use of a room in his house for one year, the offer was thankfully accepted. May 3, 1777, a lock was secured to the room and given in charge of Isaac Longstreth. It appears from November, 1778, for one year the directors held no quarterly meetings. In November of this year John Fitch became a member. November 6, 1779, the company taking into consideration the depreciation of the currency, think that the fines on delinquent members are too small and therefore appoint a committee to regulate and fix the same according to the currency. In the spring of 1780 the library was moved to the house of William Wilson and placed under his charge. The committee having neglected to regulate and fix the fines, it was ordered that they be paid in specie or in other money equivalent to the depreciation. June 14, 1783, Humphrey Waterman was employed to alter the shelves on purpose to accommodate the books. Mrs. Ferguson made a donation of fifty volumes to the company, valued at £18 18s., for which the secretary was directed to return thanks.

In 1787 the library was incorporated by an act of Assembly, and a second catalogue prepared, in which are mentioned two hundred and ninety-five works in six hundred and twenty volumes. The annual payments November 1, 1788, amounted to £36 8s. 11d. Up to February 3, 1787, eighty-five had been received as members, who had signed the Instrument of Partnership, and we herewith present a list of their names in the order they were received, omitting those mentioned as its founders,—Benjamin Lukens, James Spencer, John Bond, Moses Cherry, William Vansant, Titus Yerkes, John Johnson, William Folwell, Evan Lukens, Thomas Hallowell, Abraham Lukens, James Scout, Peter Lukens, Abel Morgan, Daniel Dungan, Jonathan Jarret, James Young, Daniel Longstreth, Josiah Hart, John Longstreth, Isaac Longstreth, Jacob Tomkins, Jesse Lukens, Daniel Thomas, Amos Watson, John Hart, Evan Lloyd, Isaac Cadwallader, Joseph Longstreth, Arthur Watts, John Folwell, Mordecai Thomas, Robert Anderson, H. Hugh Ferguson, Joseph Lukens, Clement Dungan, James Ogilbee, Seneca Lukens, Stephen Yerkes, John Hough, John Jarret, John Fitch, Isaac Hough, Jr., Joseph Folwell, William Vanhorne, Archibald McClean, Nathaniel Irwin, Abraham Duffield, John Shoemaker, Abel Marple, Isaac Leech, John Hough, William Todd, Thomas Hough, William Crawford and Robert Loller.

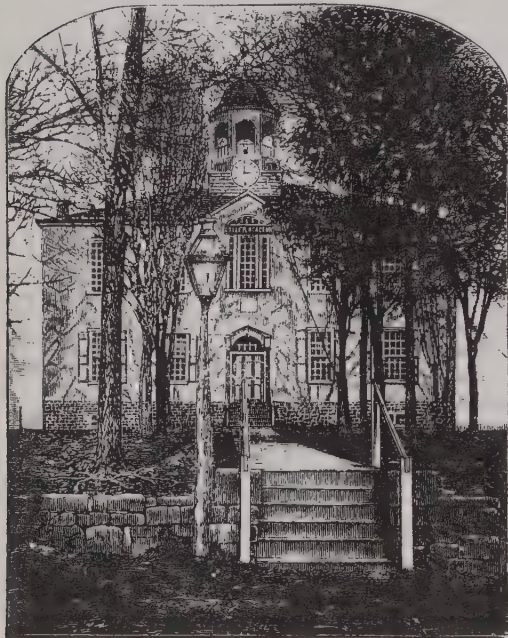
Nathan Holt, a native and resident of Horsham, who died in 1848, in his eighty-fourth year, donated most of his property for the benefit of the library company. He had been a member since 1791, and stated, not long before his death, that for most of his knowledge he was indebted to this institution. The amount realized was five thousand eight hundred dollars, whereof three thousand eight hundred dollars

was applied to the erection of a new and more commodious building, completed in 1849, and the balance invested and the income applied to the purchase of books. It is a neat and classic stone structure of the Doric order, designed by John Sloan, of Philadelphia, and its erection was superintended by the late Joseph B. Yerkes, who was appointed for the purpose. The lot of one acre on which it stands was purchased from Robert Radcliff in November, 1848, for the sum of four hundred dollars, and the books removed to the new building in March, 1850, when the former one was directed to be sold. In commemoration of its centennial, in 1855, a committee was appointed, consisting of Charles H. Hill, William J. Buck and David Newport, for its due observance, but, from the conditions imposed on them, their plan could not be carried into effect, and in consequence only a brief mention was made thereof in the minutes.

The library contains at present upwards of ten thousand volumes and the association numbers one hundred and forty-six members. The directors are A. L. Phillips, Edward Reading and John B. Carrell, with Mrs. Jane E. Carr, librarian. The seventh and last catalogue was printed in 1874, a duodecimo of one hundred and eighty-eight pages. The annual income now amounts to about four hundred dollars. The membership in 1857 was ninety-eight; in 1861, one hundred and five; and in 1876, one hundred and thirty-six. By an act of Assembly, passed in 1852, the house and lot are exempt from taxation, except for State purposes. Among the rare and valuable works on its shelves may be mentioned forty-one volumes printed between the years 1593 and 1730, and one hundred and thirteen volumes relating to the history of America printed before 1800. The formation of a cabinet of curiosities was commenced in 1857, and it now numbers upwards of four hundred objects in the several departments of antiquities, mineralogy, botany, entomology and ichthyology, and which it is hoped will steadily keep increasing. It is considerably the oldest library in the county, and, with only one recent exception, is still the largest. That it has been the means for upwards of a century and a quarter of diffusing considerable information to those who have availed themselves of its advantages there can be no question. An institution of this nature flourishing so long through voluntary efforts speaks well for the intelligence of the neighborhood.

Loller Academy.—Robert Loller resided in the house that has so long been occupied by the principal of the academy. He was the son of Robert and Grace Loller, and was probably born in Horsham. In early life he was a school-teacher, and followed the business of surveying and conveyancing, which must have impressed him with the importance of education. During the Revolution he became a colonel in the army, a member of the library in 1787, a member of Assembly and an associate judge of Montgomery County for many years. In 1805 we find him

assessed for fourteen acres of land, a horse and a cow. Being afflicted with a painful malady, he was taken to Philadelphia, where he died under treatment October 21, 1808, aged sixty-eight years, his wife surviving him only a short time, leaving no children. He had made a will, dated June 4th of that year, in which after leaving small legacies to his brothers, sister and several nieces and nephews, twenty pounds were directed to be paid for the use of a room for the Hatboro' Library, fifty pounds to the Norristown Academy; the remainder of his estate he bequeathed "unto N. B. Boileau, his heirs, assigns, etc., forever in trust for the only use, intent and purpose to erect a suitable building for an academy or seminary of learning,



LOLLER ACADEMY.

which shall be called by my name, either on my own land or elsewhere, provided the same be within one mile of the centre of Hatboro', and on such place as he may think most suitable, and after defraying the expenses of erecting the said building, direct the residue of the incomes and profits of my estate, real and personal, for the purpose of keeping up said building in repair and paying the salaries of such teacher or teachers as the trustees of said institution may from time to time employ, and for no other use, intent or purpose whatsoever, and in order that the said bequest herein before made for the purpose of establishing the said academy or seminary of learning may be secured and perpetuated, and for that purpose forever, I will order it to be incorporated as soon as convenient, and hereby nominate, constitute and appoint N. B. Boileau executor of this, my last will and testament, hereby giving and granting unto him full power and authority to execute the same."

We see by the aforesaid extract that his near neighbor, the Hon. Nathaniel B. Boileau, was invested with full authority in carrying out the requirements of the will. After this lapse of time there is not a doubt that he faithfully and honestly performed all the important duties assigned him as executor by his deceased friend, and who, in addition, was serving as Secretary of State under Governor Snyder. The building for the academy was commenced in 1811 and finished the following year. Nine trustees were assigned to the charge of it, to be elected annually in December by the patrons of the schools held therein. On March 14, 1812, they held their first meeting, appointing George Murray principal of the educational department. The academy was built, at a cost of upwards of eleven thousand dollars, on a portion of Judge Loller's estate, and within a hundred yards of his residence. It was incorporated by an act of Legislature February 12, 1812, and was at that time the thirty-fifth academy chartered since the settlement of Pennsylvania. It is a substantial two-story stone edifice, sixty-one by forty-two feet, standing on a commanding site, and from a distance its cupola attracts the attention of the traveler. The clock was made by Isaiah Lukens, an ingenious mechanic, of Horsham, but has been out of repair now for some time. On a final settlement of the estate, after the cost for building, there remained an annual income from the endowment for its support, amounting to two hundred and eighty-three dollars,—certainly a handsome sum for this period, calculated, if judiciously expended in the extension of knowledge, to greatly benefit the neighborhood.

On the erection of the academy there may have been five school-houses in Moreland township, one near Hatboro' and another near the present Morgan's mill, also, within three miles, one at Horsham, one in Warminster and another on the Welch road, by the Upper Dublin line. The one near Hatboro' stood on the north side of Byberry road, nearly half a mile east of the village. It was a small stone structure, supposed to have been built about 1730, where N. B. Boileau informed us he had first been to school in 1768. On account of the academy, it was now deemed unnecessary, and by an act of March 12, 1812, N. B. Boileau, Thomas Montanye and Gove Mitchell were authorized to sell it, with the lot of ground pertaining thereto. The proceeds were appropriated, one-half to the academy and the other to the erection of a new school-house on the land of Isaac Pickering, a mile east of Hatboro', on the county line, near the intersection of the Newtown road. George Murray remained principal of the academy until March 27, 1814, when Jared Schofield was elected his successor, who was succeeded, August 15, 1815, by Giles McDowell, who retained the position into 1818, when the Rev. Robert Belville became his successor until July 12, 1819, when Nathaniel Furman received it, followed, April 4, 1825, by Caleb Frazier, then



Wm. K. Goentner

in October, by John McNair, who served until December 15, 1828, then Benjamin Shoemaker to May 5, 1833, thence by Walter Hibbs to December 13, 1834, then by William M. Hough to December 21, 1834, who was succeeded by Hugh Morrow. In addition to the ordinary branches, all the aforesaid taught the Greek and Latin languages and the higher mathematics. Instructions were also sometimes given in French and drawing.

Of the aforesaid principals, but three were personally known to the writer. George Murray was a Scotchman by birth, and, we presume, not long after leaving here settled in Doylestown, where he kept a boarding and day-school for boys in 1833 and, likely, on down to about 1860. He was regarded as a good teacher, partly deaf, and spoke with a decided Scottish accent. He saved sufficient money to buy himself a farm in the vicinity of Doylestown, on which he removed and continued until his death, but a few years ago, having attained nearly a century in years. John McNair, who was married to a sister of the late Captain John W. Yerkes, of Hatboro', afterwards removed to the present village of Abington, where he successfully established a boarding and day-school for boys, which, we believe, he continued there for some ten or fifteen years. He was afterwards elected clerk of the courts of Montgomery County, and twice a member of Congress. About 1856 he removed to Virginia and settled upon a farm in the immediate vicinity of the Bull Run battle-ground, where he died somewhere about 1862, or in the midst of the war.

An act was passed by the Assembly June 30, 1836, establishing public schools throughout the State, by which every township was made a school district. The provisions of this act left it to the voters of the township whether or not they would accept the common school system, by which the schools should receive an annual appropriation from the State, with power to raise by taxation a sum sufficient to make them free to all, and to be kept open as long as the directors thought proper. Moreland township, under its provisions, became a non-accepting district, and the old system was continued, by which the trustees of every school selected their own teachers and the parents paid the teachers so much per day or quarter for the schooling of their children, and a small sum was annually raised by taxation to pay for the education of those whose parents could not defray the expense. On the 11th of April, 1848, an act was passed extending the school system over the entire State, and on the 3d of July following the school directors, acting under the said law, put the same into operation by the opening of five schools for six months and ending by the close of the school year, June 1, 1849. From arrangements thus made Mr. Morrow combined the public school with his own, which he taught for about six years, having on his list from eighty to one hundred and ten pupils,

when the former was separated and taught in another part of the academy, under the superintendence of Edwin S. Ritchie. He continued to conduct the private and classical department successfully down to his resignation, in 1865.

As a teacher, few can be found who have had more experience than Hugh Morrow. At the early age of sixteen he became an assistant in the Milton Academy, under the charge of the Rev. David Kirkpatrick. He has also taught at Alton, Ill., and other places. Of Loller Academy he was the principal teacher in charge for almost a quarter of a century, in which period alone he probably here gave instruction to some two thousand pupils, the survivors of whom are now widely scattered, and no doubt will long hold in regard their now venerable preceptor. He has had the satisfaction of seeing some of those that he summoned to their studies with the old Academy bell advanced to honor in the army and navy, as well as in the legal, clerical and medical professions and in other pursuits of life. His fellow-citizens have not been unmindful of his services, for on the incorporation of Hatboro', in 1871, he was elected a justice of the peace, and twice since made burgess. Although now in his seventy-seventh year, we are gratified to say age appears to have touched him lightly.

The public schools for this borough continue to be held in the academy, and in 1875 were reported to have one hundred and sixty-seven pupils. For the school year ending June 1, 1882, the average daily attendance for ten months was stated to be seventy-nine. The present principal of the grammar department is A. R. Place, who is assisted in the secondary by Sue H. Fulmor and in the primary by Emma McIntosh, William H. Walker having been the previous principal. Few places of similar size, for nearly a century, have had such advantages of receiving and diffusing knowledge as Hatboro'—we mean through its Loller Academy and Library, and thus raising a higher intellectual standard of culture among its population than would have otherwise been expected. Reflecting, too, upon the numerous debating societies, lyceums, lectures and instructive exhibitions that have been so long held within its building, one can not calculate the extent of their influence upon the intelligence and morality of the people. Then let the source thereof, Judge Loller's bequest, be kept in grateful remembrance as a noble benefaction.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

WILLIAM KRIDER GOENTNER.

William Krider Goentner, the oldest son of John L. and Maria Goentner, was born in Philadelphia October 24, 1814. His father was a native of Breslau

Prussia, and his mother the daughter of Wm. Krider, who owned a farm on the north side of Market Street, the farm-house in which they resided being directly opposite to where John Wanamaker's store now stands.

Soon after his birth his father removed to South Carolina. The boy early evinced a fondness for study, and while quite small began his education in a log school-house. He made such progress that he was sent to a school in Charleston, where he was greatly praised by his teacher for his aptitude in acquiring a knowledge of language.

After his father's death, from yellow fever, his mother returned to Philadelphia, where, at the age of fourteen, he became a member of St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church. At the age of eighteen he was licensed to exhort; during his boyhood his most intimate friend was Abel Stevens, who has since gained a world-wide reputation as preacher, writer and historian. Together they used to visit constantly and exhort at the House of Refuge, the Almshouse and the jails.

On the day he was twenty-one he went to Norristown, where a little band were struggling to organize De Kalb Street Methodist Episcopal Church. Here he founded a Sunday-school, added to the small society nearly a hundred members and had the church built and dedicated. From there he went to Fairmount, where he spent a very successful year; the revival that repaid his efforts is still remembered and talked of by the older members of the church. He was then sent to Lehman's Chapel, Hatboro', where at that time there were five members. Mr. Lehman, a wealthy old gentleman, had built the church; Mr. Goentner dedicated it, and during his pastorate added fifty members.

His next appointment was an old-fashioned Methodist circuit centring at Stroudsburg, but with twenty-four different preaching-points each month. During the year he traveled five thousand miles over the mountains on horseback, and his rather delicate health became wonderfully improved. He acquired the habit of reading while his horse was in motion, and during clear weather almost always rode with his open book in hand. He had now completed the four years' course of study required by the Conference.

Just before going to Bristol Circuit, his next field of labor, he was married to Miss Sarah T. Beans, the daughter of John and Martha Beans. Wm. Penn found her father's ancestors settled in this region when he came to Pennsylvania, and on her mother's side she was directly descended from Governor John Carver, one of Massachusetts' "Pilgrim Fathers." Bristol Circuit at that time included Doylestown and all the territory between and around.

A number of years of arduous toil followed; after fifteen years' labor as a Methodist minister, he found, because of his rapidly-growing family, some more lucrative employment to be a necessity. He accord-

ingly left the ministry, and, although repeatedly urged in after years to do so, has never returned to the work. He then settled upon the farm near Hatboro', where he now resides, it being a part of the original "Beans tract."

Of his family of twelve children, one son and one daughter died in infancy, and two daughters, one a remarkably precocious child, in early youth. His oldest son, after teaching a few years, became a farmer; the other two are professional men, and his daughters are engaged in teaching.

Mr. Goentner was one of the earliest movers in the temperance cause in the county, and has always been identified with it, having represented it for years in State and county conventions. He was one of the original founders of the Republican party in the county, and for many years a delegate to its conventions. For thirty-four years he has never missed an election, though never a candidate for any office.

On first coming into the neighborhood he purchased a share in the Hatboro' Library, of which he has always remained an active member, and despite his cares and each day's labor, is an indefatigable reader. Owing to his efforts the Revolutionary monument was erected on the "Crooked Billet" battle-field. He first proposed it, donated the lot for it and was elected president of the association, which office he has ever since held.

Prior to 1860, during a number of years, an excellent lyceum flourished at Hatboro'; the debates were noted throughout the neighboring counties. Many of the men whose names are recorded in these pages crossed swords with him in wordy combat in Loller Hall, Hatboro'.

Mr. Goentner adds another to the long list of names of men who have conquered their way through life by persevering efforts, having risen almost unaided from an orphan boy to be an honored, useful and beloved citizen.

JOHN B. JONES.

John B. Jones is a native of Worcester County, Md., where he was born August 12, 1825. His parents, John and Nancy Bishop Jones, were both natives of Worcester County, Md., where they died when their son, John B., was about twelve years of age. At that tender age John B. was thrown upon the charity of a cold and heartless world, and apprenticed to learn the trade of a shoemaker, a trade not exactly in accordance with his taste, and after serving three years and having learned the rudiments of the art, he resolved (in his own mind) that shoemaking was not, to him at least, the road to future greatness; therefore, without the usual formalities, forever dissolved his connection with shoemaking and between master and servant, at least as far as he was concerned, and made his way up into the little State of Delaware. There he found employment at various kinds of work until he was

nineteen years of age, when he took another step northward and landed in Philadelphia, Pa. At that place he soon found employment, and from 1845 to 1858 his occupation was that of a stage-driver. At first he drove on the route from Philadelphia to Easton, Pa., by way of Doylestown, and all along this route, o'er hill and dale, could be heard his "winding-horn" as he approached the wayside inns and post-offices. During this time he was employed by Jacob Peters, Sr., the old and, at that date, well-known mail contractor on many of the Pennsylvania routes.

In due time he was transferred from the Philadel-

first contract for a mail route was from Georgetown, Del., to Northampton, Va., a distance of one hundred and thirty miles. In 1858 he located in Hatboro', then Moreland township, and purchased what is now the "Jones House," where he has for twenty-seven years acted well the part of "mine host" in one of the best-appointed hotels in Montgomery County.

Upon his settlement in Hatboro' Mr. Jones became one of the substantial men of the town, and for his urbane and genial qualities, his honesty of purpose and uprightness of character and solid worth, is not surpassed by any in the community. He has been hon-



John B Jones

phia and Easton route to the old Swiftsure Line, running between Philadelphia, Pa., and Flemington, N. J., where he remained the Jehu of the route till the palace-car superseded the old stage-coach and monopolized the passenger traffic. During his career in the staging business he owned the Swiftsure Line, which he purchased in 1852, or soon after the death of Mr. Peters, and in June, 1860, sold the route, stock and fixtures. He has also been quite prominent among the mail contractors of the United States, owning several routes and parts of routes at the same time, and sub-letting them at a profit both to himself and the sub-contractor. His

ored by his townsmen with the office of school director for five years; trustee of the Loller Academy for twenty years; member of the Town Council of the town of Hatboro', and treasurer of the same; also one of the originators of the Hatboro' Cemetery Association, and its treasurer since its organization. He was also one of the charter members of the W. K. Bray Lodge, No. 410, A. Y. M., of Hatboro', and its treasurer since its institution.

He was married, in 1848, to Miss Harriet Shugard, of Philadelphia, Pa. They are the parents of nine children, eight of whom are living, viz.: John W., born February 6, 1850; Mary E., born October 3,

1852; Ella D., born March 21, 1855; Leonora, born March 17, 1857; Harriet, born January 30, 1859; Paul, born February 28, 1860; Emma L., born December 14, 1862; Angie B., born July 4, 1869. The four elder were born in Philadelphia, and the four younger in Hatboro', Montgomery Co., Pa.

JOHN VAN PELT.

John Van Pelt is a descendant of the pioneer of that name who came from Holland as early as 1750, and settled in Midwont, or Flatbush, Long Island, and either himself or immediate descendants migrated

land, and carried on the carpenter, cabinet, pump-making and undertaking business in connection with his little farm.

The children of Thomas H. and Alice Van Pelt were as follows:

Joseph C., born in 1826; married Elizabeth Ray, of Bucks County.

Samuel P., born in 1830; married Adelaide Lukens, and died in 1882.

Sarah Jane, born in 1833; married Charles Willard, of Bucks County.

Thomas H. Van Pelt, Jr., born in 1835; married Wilhelmina Selna, of Bucks County.



John Van Pelt

to Bucks County, Pa., from whence sprang the numerous Van Pelt families in this part of Pennsylvania, and even throughout the United States.

Isaac, the grandfather of John Van Pelt, was born in Holland, and soon after his arrival in this country located on a farm about half-way between Wrightstown and Penn's Park, Bucks Co., Pa. His children were Isaac, John, Thomas H., Jane, Nellie and Eliza.

Of these children, Thomas H. was born in 1800 and married Alice, daughter of Joseph C. Campbell, of Bucks County, Pa. Alice Campbell was born in Solebury, Bucks Co., Pa., in 1804, and is still living. Thomas owned a small farm of twenty-six acres of

Mary Ann, born in June, 1836; married John Everitt, of Bucks County.

John, born December 18, 1837.

William Henry, born in 1842 and died when fourteen years of age.

Eliza Ellen, born June 14, 1845; married Major Joseph B. Roberts, of Newtown, Bucks Co.

Louisa, born in 1848; unmarried.

John Van Pelt, son of Thomas H. and Alice Van Pelt, was born in Buckingham township, Bucks Co., Pa., December, 1837, and at the age of seventeen years was apprenticed to learn the trade of a carriage-maker with Israel B. Matthews, of Centreville, Bucks Co.,

and served five years. He then worked as a journeyman for three years, then rented the shop in which he had learned his trade, and carried on the carriage-making business for two years, when he sold out and went to Philadelphia, where he worked as a journeyman for five years. He then went to Pineville, Bucks Co., Pa., where he built a large carriage-factory, and for five years conducted a large and successful business, at the end of which time he sold out and assumed the management of a carriage-factory at Centreville, which he subsequently purchased, and continued the business on his own account for two years, and again sold out. In the autumn of 1874 he, with his brother, Samuel P., came to Hatboro' and built the hardware-store and dwelling where he has since resided. After a copartnership of fifteen months he purchased his brother's interest in the property, and associated with himself his brother-in-law, Joseph B. Roberts, who, after fifteen months' partnership, purchased Mr. Van Pelt's interest in the property. Mr. Van Pelt was then in the dry-goods and notion trade for nearly two years, when he purchased of Mr. Roberts his interest in the hardware business, which he has since conducted with signal success. In the autumn of 1884, Mr. Van Pelt added a large stock of groceries to his hardware trade, which he has thus far found a profitable investment. Mr. Van Pelt has been honored by the voters of Hatboro' with the office of burgess of the borough for two terms, and in the spring of 1883 was elected a member of the Borough Council, which position he still holds. He is a member of Bristol Lodge, No. 25, Free Masons, and of Girard Mark Chapter 214. Mr. Van Pelt has in his possession a gold watch formerly owned by the Marquis de Lafayette, which is highly prized by its possessor, and connected with which is quite an interesting history.

Mr. Van Pelt was married, in the autumn of 1882, to Mrs. Martha H. Sprogell, of Hatboro'. Mrs. Van Pelt was born in Virginia in 1842, and when but a few months old her parents moved to Delaware and subsequently to Maryland. She is of English-French parentage and a highly-educated and accomplished lady, endowed with a literary ability second to no lady in Montgomery County. Her maternal grandfather, Ralph Melbourne, descended directly from Lord Melbourne, of England. Her paternal grandfather was Benona de Hoziea, a noted Frenchman and bosom friend of the Marquis de Lafayette. Her father's name was also Benona de Hoziea, an uncle of George Alfred Townsend (Gath). At the age of fifteen years she, with her cousin, George Alfred Townsend, edited a small paper, and since her residence in Hatboro' she has been the editress and life of the *Public Spirit*, a large weekly published at that place.

CHAPTER XLV.

BOROUGH OF JENKINTOWN.¹

THIS borough was incorporated December 8, 1874, and all its territory, comprising an area of two hundred and forty-eight acres, taken from Abington township. Its extreme length from north to south is about three-fourths of a mile, and bounds Cheltenham township for over half of that distance. The main or business portion of the town is situated along York Avenue, opened through here as a highway from Philadelphia to the river Delaware in the fall of 1711, and turnpiked from the Rising Sun to Willow Grove in 1804. The station of the North Pennsylvania Railroad here, situated in the southwestern corner of the borough, close to the Cheltenham line, is eight and one-tenth miles from Philadelphia, twenty-three and four-fifths from Doylestown, forty-six from Bethlehem and eighty and three-tenths miles from New York. The road was opened for travel in 1856 and the branch to New York in May, 1876. A considerable amount of business is done here, as may be well supposed, it being the stopping-place for forty-four daily passenger-trains each way, and on Sundays nineteen. The scenery around this station is justly admired, the hills, woods and waters of the Tacony Creek giving it quite a romantic appearance. Upon arriving at the station the wonder of a stranger is justly excited as to the whereabouts of Jenkintown, as no such place is perceptible, it lying off nearly half a mile in an easterly direction.

From its nearness to the city and unusual business facilities, as well as from its being surrounded by a fine and fertile section of country, abounding with fine springs of water, the place is rapidly improving and its real estate enhancing in value. The census of 1880 gave it eight hundred and ten inhabitants and the assessment of 1883 returned three hundred and five taxables, possessing property valued at six hundred and four thousand one hundred and thirty dollars. It contains five churches, a bank, two flour and feed, two stove, three drug, six merchandise, one notion, one tobacco, one confectionery and one shoe store. The public-school building is a one-story stone structure, standing in the centre of a commodious lot at the corner of West and Cedar Avenues. Three schools are kept in it, and for the school year ending June 3, 1883, they were open ten months, with an average daily attendance of one hundred and two scholars. Gordon, in his "Gazetteer of 1832," mentions Jenkintown as containing thirty dwellings, two hotels and two stores. According to Lake's map, published in 1860, it contained at that date fifty houses, two hotels, two stores and an Episcopal Church.

For its size, Jenkintown may be regarded as a place of churches, there being within a distance of two

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

miles around it, seven additional houses of worship, making in all twelve, belonging to seven different religious denominations. The first built in the place was the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour, handsomely situated within a shady lawn on the east side of York Avenue. The congregation was organized by the Rev. E. Y. Buchanan, of Oxford Church, who held services in Lyceum Hall in 1857. The church was opened for worship June 20, 1858, when the Rev. Orme B. Keith took charge as its first rector. The rectory was built in 1861, and the parish building in 1866, both of stone. Mr. Keith resigned in March, 1870, and in April of the same year Rev. R. Francis Colton became rector. He died suddenly in July, 1880, and in the following December the Rev. Frederick Palmer, the present incumbent, received the charge. The present number of communicants is one hundred and twenty. The church is a neat and substantial one-story brown sandstone structure, in the Gothic style, surmounted by a stone belfry. The property is valued at thirty thousand dollars and is free from all debts.

The Roman Catholic Church of the Immaculate conception, of which the Rev. J. J. Mellon is present pastor, is built of stone in the Italian style, two-stories high, and is located at the corner of West Avenue and Pleasant Street. It was erected in 1866; dimensions, fifty-three by ninety-eight feet; Christopher Lugar, builder. The congregation was formed and worship held for several years previously in Lyceum Hall. Services are held on Sunday at seven, eight and half-past ten A.M., and vespers at eight P.M. The Sunday-school meets at nine A.M. A two story stone parochial residence is attached to the church.

The Methodist Episcopal Church property on West Avenue was originally the first public school-house built under the school law in Abington township. It was purchased by the congregation April 20, 1867, and after worshipping therein for several years was enlarged, in 1879, to thirty-six by thirty feet in dimensions. It is a plain one-story stone structure standing within a fair-sized lot. The pastors who have served the church are as follows: Revs. A. J. Collom, J. A. Cooper, J. R. Bailey, M. Barnhill, Robert McKay, E. C. Yerkes, A. J. Collom, E. I. Townsend, W. H. Pickop and Rev. J. Bickley Burns, the present pastor. The Sunday-school has an average attendance of seventy-five scholars.

Grace Presbyterian Church is situated on the east side of York Avenue, and is a handsome one-story stone structure in the Gothic style. The lot of ground was purchased in the spring of 1871 for two thousand three hundred dollars, having a front of one hundred and twenty-six feet and a depth of upwards of three hundred feet. The church was erected thereon at the expense of Mr. John Wanamaker, and was dedicated in September, 1872. Its membership in July, 1874, was stated to be ninety-three, comprising thirty-four families. The Sabbath-school was revived in August,

1869, in Lyceum Hall, and the congregation was soon after formed by the Rev. S. T. Lowrie, of the Abington Church, who continued in the charge until August, 1874. The Rev. L. W. Eckhard succeeded January 1, 1875, followed by the Rev. J. H. Dulles as "missionary assistant," April 17, 1877. Rev. Archibald Murphy was appointed in the spring of 1878 and remained for nearly two years, when he took charge of the Roxborough Church. The Sabbath-school contains at present about one hundred and sixty-five scholars. The Rev. Henry McKubbin has present charge.

The Baptist Church is situated on a knoll at the corner of Walnut Avenue and Beechwood Street, commanding a magnificent view of the surrounding country. The lot of ground was presented for the purpose by William Pettit. It is a one-story stone building, in the Gothic style, thirty by sixty feet in dimensions. The congregation was organized in 1880 by the Rev. Josiah Williams, with twenty-five members, and in the summer of 1883, had increased to forty-five, with eighty children in the Sunday-school. The corner-stone was laid June 23d, 1883, and dedicated the 8th of November following, when the Rev. A. J. Shoemaker was ordained as pastor. The congregations of the five churches were all originally formed and held their worship in Lyceum Hall, on York Avenue, prior to the erection of their respective houses of worship. It is a plain one-story stone building of modern size, erected in 1839, and designed chiefly for the promotion of useful knowledge. There is not a place of interment in the borough.

The Jenkintown National Bank was authorized to commence business by the comptroller of the currency, April 17, 1875, the subscriptions therefore having commenced on the 25th of January previous. Its original capital was \$50,000, increased July 6, 1876, to \$70,000, and in January, 1884, to \$100,000. The bank was opened for business in Masonic Hall, May 3, 1875, where it remained until the completion of the present building, March 14, 1880, which occupied a lot fifty-seven by two hundred and seven feet on York Avenue, the whole costing, with furniture, safes, etc., \$10,700. The charter number of the bank is 2249. Samuel W. Noble is president and Andrew H. Baker cashier. The average individual deposits for 1883 exceeded \$97,000.

Masonic Hall is a large three-story stone building, the first story of which is designed for business purposes. The second story possesses a commodious concert and exhibition-room, to which is attached a stage, with drop-curtains, etc. Friendship Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, No. 400, meet in the upper story. Peace and Love Lodge, of I. O. O. F., No. 337; Jenkintown Lodge of Knights of Pythias, No. 476 and a division of the Sons of Temperance, No. 127, also hold meetings in the place.

Besides possessing five churches and several public halls, the promotion of literary facilities and useful

knowledge have not been neglected by the residents in and around Jenkintown. Abington Library was founded here in 1803, and is now located in Masonic Hall, of which a history has been prepared to follow this article. In January, 1881, a lady of the neighborhood asked five gentlemen to serve as a board of directors for a reading-room in the place, in behalf of which she offered to pay the rent of a suitable room for three years and supply the following periodicals: *Scribner's Magazine*, *Nineteenth Century*, *Harper's Weekly*, *The Spectator*, *The Contemporary Review*, *Punch*, *The Scientific American*, *The Nation* and the *Fortnightly Review*. Contributions in addition having been received from other persons, in February a room in Masonic Hall was rented, formerly occupied by the Jenkintown Bank, which was handsomely fitted up and opened to the public on the evening of February 24, 1881. To the original list a considerable number of magazines and newspapers have been added. Soon after its opening arrangements were made with the directors of Abington Library by which access was allowed to their books in the adjoining room. In connection with the same, and to extend its usefulness, several gentlemen and ladies residing in the vicinity gave a series of lectures on literary and scientific subjects. The directors of this laudable effort are Frederick Palmer, president; A. H. Baker, treasurer; Joseph W. Hunter, secretary; J. W. Ridpath and Charles Mather.

The borough, as has been stated, was organized December 8, 1874. Marion Chalfan, the first burgess, served until March, 1876; Thomas P. Manypenny, second, served until March, 1879; John J. C. Harvey, third, served until March, 1884; M. L. Kohler, served until March, 1885; J. H. Wheeler is the present incumbent.

The earliest mention yet found of the name of this borough is on Nicholas Scull's map of the province, published in 1759, whereon it is called "Jenkins' Town," William Scull, on his map of 1770, denoting it as "Jenkins." William Jenkins, the founder of the family, came from Wales, and we know that he at least resided in this vicinity in 1697, and took at that time an active part in promoting the erection of the Friends' Meeting-house. He purchased, June 17, 1698, from John Barnes a tract containing four hundred and thirty-seven acres, located on the present York road about half a mile north of the borough boundary. This property in 1712 was inhabited by his son Stephen, whom we know continued to reside thereon in 1734, and had a son Phineas Jenkins, at this date residing near by. In the assessment of Abington for 1780 we find mentioned Phineas Jenkins, Sr., undoubtedly the former person, William, Lydia, a widow, and John and Jesse Jenkins, the latter probably brothers. We know that in 1779, Sarah Jenkins was licensed by the Court of Quarter Sessions to keep here a public-house, and herein we undoubtedly see how the name got to be applied, as this public-house may have been in

the family and kept even several years before 1759. On inquiry it has been ascertained that this inn stood a few yards below the present Cottman House.

All the land comprised within the present limits of the borough, and surrounding it in Abington township, was originally taken up in 1684 by Sarah Fuller and John Barnes. The former's purchase contained two hundred and fifty and the latter's six hundred acres. It is probable that Sarah Fuller never resided in this vicinity. John Barnes and Joseph Phipps were among the earliest settlers. The first highway up into this section from Philadelphia was the York road in 1711, beside which we know at said date Stephen Jenkins resided, who was one of the jurors that assisted in laying it out. The road from the present Fitzwatertown, by Weldon and through the borough to Abington Meeting-house, was laid out in 1725. Thomas Fitzwater at this date carried on line-burning at the former place. The aforesaid road now forms East and West Avenues. The road known as Washington Lane was confirmed from Germantown to the meeting-house in 1735, and now forms the eastern boundary of the borough. From the laying out of these early roads, we can perceive that at this period this section must have been taken up and pretty well settled. The great centre, however, appears to have been the Friends' Meeting-house, originally completed in 1700 and situated nearly half a mile east of the borough limits.

The inn kept here in 1779 by Sarah Jenkins may have been the stand licensed to Stephen Meshon in 1787-88. By an act of Assembly passed March 31, 1797, the Third Election District was composed of the townships of Abington, Cheltenham and Moreland, which were required to vote at the public-house of William McCalla, which then stood on the present Cottman House property. Mr. McCalla, in connection with John Brock, Joseph Hillman, James Burson, Charles Meredith, Charles Stewart, Alexander McCalla and Elijah Tyson, established a semi-weekly line of stages from Philadelphia to Bethlehem, by way of Doylestown, in 1800, exchanging horses here, the fare through being \$2.75. In January, 1807, Mr. McCalla advertised his property, from which we have obtained the following description:

"For sale, that well-known tavern-stand, sign of the 'Barley Sheaf,' a large two-story stone house, four rooms on the front and seven on the second story, stabling sufficient for ninety-five horses, ice-house, new and convenient. The lot contains three acres, fronts on York road three hundred and sixty-six feet. A post-office is kept here, and two lines of stages stop at said inn."

It appears that he rented out the stand from 1807 until 1813, in the mean time keeping a store here. He now returned again to the inn, which he kept at least as late as 1818. Thomas Coughlin purchased the stand about this time. In the summer of 1825 he died, and it was offered at public sale the following October 25th, at which time mention is made of its sign being "the American Eagle," and that there was on the premises extensive sheds, stabling for sixty horses, a brick ten-

ement and a blacksmith-shop. As it was not sold, we know that the widow, Edith Coughlin, still kept it in the beginning of 1829. This stand was long owned and kept by the late William Cottman, under the aforesaid name, until a recent time.

Mr. McCalla, we know, was postmaster here in 1806, and was succeeded, in 1808, by Charles T. Hallowell, store-keeper, who retired in the spring of 1812, when the former resumed the office and kept it to 1819, if not later, and was succeeded therein by Thomas Coughlin, and next by his widow. Mr. McCalla appears to have been an enterprising man. He was a member of Abington Presbyterian Church, where he lies buried, having died December 19, 1850, in his seventy-eighth year. His wife, Jane, had preceded him December 15, 1836, in her sixty-fifth year. A horse company, for the recovery of stolen horses and bringing thieves to justice, was organized at McCalla's house March 1, 1810, and is still in existence among the neighboring farmers, and holds its annual meetings at the same place. A public meeting was also held at that place, September 6, 1814, to aid the people of Philadelphia in the defense of their city. Joshua Tyson was chairman and Jesse Dillon secretary. Another public-house was kept in Jenkintown in 1813 by Joseph Thomas, sign of the "Cross Keys." This stand was subsequently kept for some time by Jacob Buck as the "Green Tree," which was discontinued about 1842.

Joseph Iredell, in December, 1810, advertises a two-story house for sale, with a shop attached, in which he carried on saddle-making, a business that has now nearly disappeared in the county. Owing to the demand for houses in Philadelphia, in the spring of 1824 a number of weavers removed out here. A passing traveler at this time writes that "the pleasant little village is crowded with manufacturers from the city, who, with their noisy looms, have established themselves in every corner where a little elbow-room could be found. Through this sudden irruption on the quiet habits of the villagers twenty houses more could readily find tenants in Jenkintown." The extensive works of the Wharton Switch Company are located near the railroad station, a short distance from the borough line. A further account is given in the article on Abington township.

The Abington Library.—So little was actually done in book publishing before the Revolution that not even a copy of the English Bible was produced in any of the colonies, it having been alone printed by John Eliot, of Massachusetts, in the Indian language, and by Christopher Sour, of Germantown, in three editions in the German, the first in 1743. Books consequently had to be imported by order either for public or private use, as we find was done by the records of the Union Library of Hatboro' till the Revolution checked intercourse abroad. It is stated as one reason that no English Bible was printed here in a population

of nearly three millions, was that the British government would not have permitted it, this sole privilege having been vested in the University of Oxford.

The principal inhabitants in and around the village of Jenkintown as early as February 19, 1803, assembled for the purpose of establishing a library there, and appointed John Morrison, Ebenezer Hickling and William Johnson a committee for the purpose of preparing a code of by-laws and reporting the same at a meeting to be held at the public-house of William McCalla on the 3d of March following at three P.M. As adopted the board of officers was to consist of five directors, a treasurer and librarian, to be chosen annually. Payments of seventy-five cents were to be made by each member every six months. According to Article 2d, "It shall be an unalterable rule in this constitution that no books of an atheistical, immoral or deistical tendency shall ever be admitted into this library, on any pretense whatever, and should at any time (notwithstanding this resolution) such books be introduced, it shall in that case be the duty of the librarian to stop their circulation, and give timely notice of the same to the society."

The names of the original members were Ebenezer Hickling, Morris Morris, Thomas Fletcher, Lewis Roberts, Joseph Taylor, John Michener, Clement R. Shepherd, Richard Martin, Joseph Iredell, William Johnson, William McCalla, Richard T. Leech, John Morrison, Isaac Hallowell, William Lukens, Margaret Morris, Baker Barnes, John Blake, Jr., Thomas Mather, Peter Johnson, Charles T. Hallowell, Ryner Tyson, Isaac Mather, Thomas Shoemaker, John Moore, Edward Potts and Samuel Potts,—being thirty-three in number, certainly sufficient for a promising beginning. Although more than three-fourths of a century have elapsed, we entertain no doubt that above half the number have descendants still living in this section, numbering among them some of our most respectable and prominent citizens.

In the first book of "Minutes of the Directors of the Abington Library Company," under the date of March 21, 1803, we find mention that "This being the day appointed for the first meeting of the directors, they met accordingly at the library-room in the house of William Johnson. Present, John Michener, Thomas Shoemaker and Richard T. Leech. On examining the state of the funds, found them not yet sufficient to warrant a purchase of books. A member produced and offered for sale Goldsmith's 'Animated Nature,' in four volumes, which on consideration the directors agreed to purchase at \$6.50. The treasurer was authorized to collect, if possible, the subscriptions that remain due by next meeting, and the librarian to receive and keep a list of all books that may come into the library, either by gift or purchase, and to consider them as under his care for the present."

"On examining the report of the treasurer," the following 4th of April, "it appeared that they had made a purchase of books to the amount of \$143.70, which

were produced and arranged on the shelves. Ordered that the librarian number them immediately, when they may be given out to the members agreeably to the direction of the by-laws, and that he prepares lists of books for said use. Allowed the committee who attended in Philadelphia for the purchase of books \$3.17 as a compensation in lieu of their expenses, January 2, 1804. The society, in conformity to the laws proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when John Morrison, John Michener, Thomas Shoemaker, John Moore and Richard T. Leech were elected directors, William Johnson treasurer, and Jesse Johnson librarian. One hundred copies of the constitution, by-laws and subscribers' names were ordered to be printed and delivered to the members at the expense of the society, and the librarian is requested to make out a copy for publication. The librarian to expedite as much as possible the collection of fines and dues in order to make an additional purchase of books, etc. *Resolved unanimously*, that the directors be and are hereby requested to apply with all convenient speed to the Legislature of the State, or any competent authority, for the purpose of obtaining a charter in order to incorporate this society."

The original charter, granted September 5, 1805, is now in possession of the secretary, Charles Mather, and is on parchment over two and a half feet square, and is very well written. The heading particularly is admirably done, the title thereon being "The Abington Society for the Promotion of Useful Knowledge." It contains the autographs of the incorporators, whose names are John Morrison, William Johnson, John Michener, Ryner Tyson, Richard T. Leech, Clement R. Shepherd, David Thomas, Ebenezer Hickling, James Oram, William McCalla, Isaac Clayton, Peter Johnson, Daniel Fletcher, Charles T. Hallowell, John Moore, Joseph Phipps, Thomas Fletcher, Isaac Hallowell, Joseph Iredell and Thomas Shoemaker. The clause against immoral works was sustained. "This society shall never be dissolved unless by the unanimous consent of its members. No alteration or amendment shall be made to this constitution except by the consent of two-thirds of its members." It bears the signature of Thomas McKean as Governor, who was also one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The charter having fallen behind some of the books, eventually became lost and forgotten, when an attack was made on it by the mice, but fortunately they did not injure any of its writing. It was found on renovating the library, and is now kept within a tin case made on purpose for its better security.

Mr. Mather, the efficient secretary, has kindly furnished the writer with interesting reminiscences of several of the original incorporators, to which are added a few additional facts. John Morrison was a justice of the peace of Abington township for many years. Richard T. Leech, of Cheltenham, was a member of Assembly for several years, and afterwards surveyor-

general of Pennsylvania. William Johnson kept the store now occupied by Charles Harper, at the corner of York and West Avenues. Clement R. Shepherd conducted the tannery on the York road, opposite the farm of Samuel W. Noble. David Thomas kept at this time the only store in the village of Abington. Ebenezer Hickling was a physician. William McCalla kept the public-house on the site of the late Eagle Hotel, and was for some time postmaster. Charles T. Hallowell erected the first buildings and kept store therein. This is now Smith & Reeder's Hotel. John Moore was a prominent physician, and resided in the house recently occupied and owned by John Wannamaker. Joseph Phipps, a descendant of one of the original land-holders of Abington, resided opposite the Friends' Meeting-house, on the place owned by the late J. Francis Fisher. Thomas Fletcher was a farmer, and resided on the place now belonging to the estate of Capt. Robinson. Isaac Hallowell resided on the farm now occupied by Thomas Buckman. Joseph Iredell was a saddler in Jenkintown. Thomas Shoemaker was a man of business habits, extensively given to settling estates, etc.

We shall now resume the history of the library since its incorporation. It was determined, January 6, 1806, "that a compensation of ten dollars be allowed the librarian, with a commission of five per cent. on all moneys collected since the 11th of March last." The price of shares was fixed at six dollars each, which was increased January 2, 1809, to eight dollars, and in 1815 to ten dollars. Mention is made of several works missing between the years 1816 and 1821. At the meeting of the latter year David Thomas, John Michener, Isaac Hallowell, Joshua Taylor and William Grant were elected directors and Joseph Shaw treasurer and librarian. The librarian's fees were reduced to twelve dollars and the shares to six dollars, and the following year to five dollars. The annual dues at the meeting in 1823 were reduced to one dollar. Robert Steel was admitted a member in 1826. January 5, 1835, Isaac Mather, Oliver Paxson, Bartholomew Mather, William Grant and John R. Hallowell were elected directors, Isaac Mather treasurer, and D. J. Bent librarian. This year Jacob Dananhower was admitted a member, and is still residing in the vicinity. Isaac Mather was treasurer from 1835 to 1848, and president from 1850 to the present time, having been a member since 1827. S. W. Noble has been treasurer since 1848. Charles F. Wilson became a member in 1848, and continued librarian till 1878, when the library was removed from over his store to its present location in Masonic Hall. The first minute book comes down to 1836.

In the "History of Montgomery County," published in "Scott's Atlas," in 1877, under the head of Jenkintown, the writer made the following remarks respecting this library: "In the catalogue published in 1855 we learn that it then contained twenty-nine members and ten hundred and twenty-two volumes. A resident of the

borough lately informed us that it now numbered but sixteen members and fourteen hundred volumes. It would be a pity, after so long a life, that it should meet the same fate as the libraries at Gwynedd, Horsham and Attleboro'. Knowing that there is considerable intelligence, enterprise and wealth in the place, we would here respectfully call attention to the subject before it is too late, and the collections of nearly three-fourths of a century become dispersed." We are gratified to state that since then there has been a renewed and greater interest taken in promoting its increase and usefulness. The library now contains about two thousand volumes,

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOSEPH W. HUNTER.

Mr. Hunter is of Scotch-Irish parentage. Adam Hunter, his grandfather, resided near Londonderry, Ireland, where he cultivated a farm. His wife, a Miss Wray, of Glasgow, Scotland, was the mother of one son, Thomas, and a daughter, Martha, who became Mrs. Andrew Scanlan. Thomas, a native of Ireland, emigrated to the United States in 1842, settling first in



Joseph W. Hunter

the price of a share is only three dollars and the yearly payment one dollar. The annual meeting for the election of officers, etc., is held the first Monday in January.

Mr. John W. Ridpath is the present librarian, of whom the privilege of using the books can be rented at the rate of fifty cents for three months. Persons using the reading-room are permitted access to the library without charge. Among the recent purchases was the latest edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," "Webster's and Worcester's Unabridged Dictionaries," and other valuable works for reference.

Philadelphia and later in Delaware County, Pa., where he followed farming pursuits. He married Henrietta, daughter of Joseph Schwend, a military engineer and staff officer in the French army under Napoleon, who afterwards emigrated to America and was employed on the Raritan Canal. The surviving children of this marriage are Joseph W., Sarah W. (Mrs. Robert T. Love), Martha, Mary A., Rebecca and Henrietta. Joseph W. was born on the 23d of July, 1853, on the Pont Reading farm, in Haverford township, Delaware County, Pa., his youth having been spent at this point and in other portions of the same county. He later removed to Lower Merion township, Mont-

gomery Co., meanwhile receiving his education at both private and public schools, and finally entering the Mantua Academy, in West Philadelphia, from which he graduated in 1870 as second in his class. Immediately after he joined Samuel L. Smedley, surveyor of the Eleventh Survey District of Philadelphia, and studied surveying under him and under his successor, George W. Hancock. He was employed by Mr. Smedley to make topographical surveys in the city and also to engage in map surveying. In 1875 he made Jenkintown his home, and while continuing his Philadelphia pursuits also engaged in farm surveying. Mr. Hunter was, in 1878, elected justice of the peace,

Pythias, and of Peace and Love Lodge, No. 337, of I. O. O. F. His religious associations are with the Presbyterian Church, of Jenkintown, of which he is a member.

JOHN J. DAVIS.

John J. Davis (originally written Davies) is a son of Evan (Davies) Davis, who was born April 22, 1803, and was baptized in the parish of Llanarth, in the county of Cardigan, South Wales.

As was customary in South Wales, Evan Davis, being the oldest son, inherited the estate, Cil-l-leoch, in the parish of Dihewid, county of Cardigan, South



John J. Davis

and re-elected in 1883 for a second term of five years. In 1882 he was made county surveyor and is still the incumbent of the office. He is to some extent active in the ranks of the Republican party, but not to so great an extent as to be regarded a politician. Mr. Hunter was, in 1878, married to Miss Kate, daughter of Thomas Gentry, of Philadelphia. He is a director of the Cheltenham and Willow Grove Turnpike Company, and member of both the Abington and Cheltenham Building and Loan Associations, of which he is secretary. He is active in the Masonic ranks as member of Friendship Lodge, No. 400, of Jenkintown; is a member of Jenkintown Lodge, No. 476, Knights of

Wales. Evan's early years were spent in school, and later his time was occupied in the study of the cause and cure of all diseases of domestic animals, and more especially the horse, and in his mature years he became widely known as one of the most skillful veterinary surgeons on either side of the Atlantic Ocean.

In the early part of the summer of 1832, Mr. Davis chartered of Lewis Jones, a cousin of Mrs. Davis, the sailing-vessel "Wyoming," Captain Watkins, and set sail for America. Another family accompanied Mr. Davis, making in all twenty-one souls on board, besides the crew. The voyage was a long, rough and tedious one, consuming about three months' time, and

they finally landed at Halifax, N. S., in September of the same year. The party of emigrants remained at Halifax about two weeks, when they went by steamer to Alexandria, Va., where the family remained four weeks. Mr. Davis in the mean time visited Philadelphia, and secured a place for his family, where they remained till the spring of 1833, when Mr. Davis and family moved to Horsham township, Montgomery Co., Pa., and located on a place along the turnpike, a short distance above Horshamville, where he remained till the spring of 1842, when he moved to Hatboro', this county.

Mr. Davis married Mary Jones, who was born January 5, 1801, and baptized in the church of the parish Dihewid, in the county of Cardigan, South Wales. They united with the Baptist Church of Hatboro' in 1840, and Mr. Davis was senior deacon of that church for many years prior to his death, which occurred December 28, 1881. Mrs. Davis still survives, in the eighty-fifth year of her age. They were the parents of eleven children, seven of whom were born in Wales, as will be seen from the following extract from the family records:

I. Eleanor, born July 16, 1821, and on the 17th day of this moon was baptized at Dihewid parish church, County Cardigan.

II. David, born February 27, 1823, and baptized the 16th day of the moon at Dihewid parish church.

III. Mary, born October 26, 1824, and baptized the 4th day of the moon at Dihewid parish church.

IV. John J., born August 29, 1826, at five minutes after two o'clock in the morning, and baptized on the 26th day of the moon in the parish church at Dihewid.

V. Griffith, born February 4, 1828, baptized on the 18th day of the moon at Dihewid parish church.

VI. Margaret, born August 19, 1829, baptized on the 20th day of the moon at the parish church, Dihewid.

VII. George, born June 3, 1831, baptized on the 22d day of the moon at Dihewid parish church.

VIII. Pryce Pugh, born February 8, 1833, and was baptized by Evan Williams in Philadelphia, Pa.

IX. Benjamin, born May 27, 1837.

X. Victoria Rachel Amelia, born November 30, 1838.

XI. Richard Lewis, born April 17, 1840.

John J. Davis, the subject of this sketch, as has been stated, was born in Wales, and came to this country with his parents when he was but six years of age. His early years were spent during the summer seasons in working on the farm, and in winter seasons at the Friends' school at Horshamville, and lastly two terms at the Loller Academy, Hatboro'.

When eighteen years of age he was apprenticed to Absalom Kearns, of Hatboro', to learn the trade of a blacksmith, and served three years and three months. After learning his trade he worked as a journeyman till the spring of 1853, when he commenced business for himself at a place called Babylon, in Horsham

township, where he remained two years. He then worked in Hatboro' one year, and in Prospectville five years, then in Hartsville one year, and in Jenkintown two years, and in the spring of 1863 removed to his present place of business, and in 1867 purchased the property of the heirs of Jesse Jenkins.

When Mr. Davis located here, in 1863, he was without capital, except good health, a thorough knowledge of the business and a determination to make life a success, which latter object has thus far been accomplished to the fullest degree. Since he has owned the property where he now lives he has remodeled and enlarged his residence, built the large and commodious blacksmith and wheelwright-shops, and gives employment to several first-class mechanics, one of whom has been in his employ for over eleven years.

He united with the Hatboro' Baptist Church when eighteen years of age, and was for many years one of its deacons, and when the Baptist Church at Jenkintown was constituted he was one of the constituent members, and has since then been its senior deacon.

He was married, January 1, 1853, to Martha B., daughter of James B. and Mary Biddle Cadwallader Langdale, of Upper Dublin township. Mrs. Davis was born July 16, 1831. They are the parents of children as follows: Mary L., born November 27, 1853, died June 21, 1856; Mary A., born January 7, 1862, died October 21, 1864; Charles L., born November 10, 1864, died March 4, 1865; Alonzo C., born September 25, 1866, died July 22, 1868; Alonzo G., born May 17, 1870, died September 23, 1872; William Henry, born June 26, 1873.

The father of Mrs. Davis, James B. Langdale, was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, April 1, 1793, and died in August, 1861. He was in the war of 1812, under General Harrison, and participated in the battles of Tippecanoe, Thomas and Fort Meigs, and was wounded in the latter battle. A musket-ball that he carried in his leg from the battle of Fort Meigs to the date of his death is now in possession of Mr. Davis.

Mrs. Langdale was born November 24, 1800, and is still living. They were the parents of Elizabeth B., born June 25, 1820; Lewis L., born July 12, 1822; Cynthia S., born October 5, 1824; Samuel, born October 22, 1826; Martha B., born July 16, 1831; Charles Ramsay, born November 1, 1833; Lydia W., born July 10, 1836.

The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Davis were of English-Irish descent, Samuel Langdale having been born in England, and his wife, Elizabeth Biddle, was born in Ireland. Elizabeth was a daughter of Thomas and Martha Biddle, and Martha was the daughter of — Heaton.

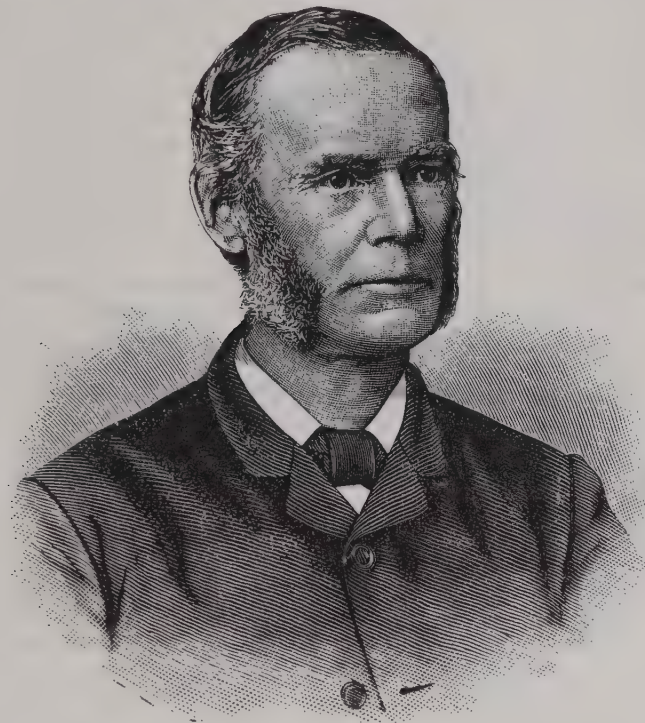
Samuel Langdale was in the Revolutionary war, and at the battle of Paoli under General Anthony Wayne, and was one of the number selected by General Wayne as a "forlorn hope" in the attack on the enemy's works.

Mrs. Davis has in her possession several letters written by Margaret Langdale between 1710 and 1723, while in the Boston Prison, London, England, during the persecution of the Quakers merely for opinion's sake. The letters are neatly and correctly written, and are held as valuable relics of British cruelty and hatred of a people who would think for themselves.

JOSEPH A. SHOEMAKER.

Mr. Shoemaker's paternal ancestors, who were of German descent, came with William Penn to Pennsylvania in 1682, and settled in what is now Horsham

beth, daughter of Joseph and Mary Logan, of Abington township, whose children are Hannah (Mrs. John Jones), Maria (Mrs. William Steel deceased), Tacy (Mrs. George Logan deceased), Jane (Mrs. George Logan deceased), Martha, Joseph A., Elizabeth and John (deceased). Mr. Shoemaker died in Horsham township, where he had latterly resided, in 1863. His son, Joseph A., was born on the 13th of May, 1826, in Gwynedd township, and received early instruction at a Friends' school. At the age of thirteen he removed to Philadelphia County, and at sixteen became an apprentice to the trade of a blacksmith, remaining for the purpose in Upper Dublin township. One year



Joseph A. Shoemaker

township, in Montgomery County. In the direct line of descent was Joseph Shoemaker, grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, who purchased land and became a farmer in Gwynedd. He was united in marriage to Miss Tacy Ambler, a lady of Welsh parentage and a resident of the same county. Their children were Ezekiel, John, Joseph, Jessie, Ann, Ellen and Hannah. John of this number, whose birth occurred in 1790, in Gwynedd township, on the completion of his apprenticeship to the trade of a harness-maker, removed to Jenkintown and subsequently to other portions of the county, where he pursued his vocation during his life. He married Eliza-

was spent as a journeyman in Montgomery County, after which he removed to the West. The East, however, offering superior advantages, he returned again to his native State and engaged in the purchase and sale of horses, meanwhile becoming for one year the tenant of a farm in Horsham township. Mr. Shoemaker, during the next three years, found employment in a saw-mill in the same township, and in 1853 made Jenkintown his residence. In connection with his brother-in-law, George Logan, he embarked in butchering, which business he has since continued with marked success, as the result of strict principles of honor carried into every transaction, com-

bined with promptness and punctuality. Mr. Shoemaker was married, on the 1st of January, 1857, to Miss Esther Ann, daughter of William Harper and Esther Smith Harper, of Abington. Their children are Clara F. (wife of Dr. Henry Waas), William H. (who is associated with his father), Harry (deceased), Lizzie and Jennie. Mr. Shoemaker is a director in the Jenkintown National Bank, president of the North Cedar Hill Cemetery Company, and vice-president of the Philadelphia Drove-Yard. He is also president of the Borough Council of Jenkintown, and has filled various minor offices as a Republican. He is a birthright member of the Friends' Society and worships with the Abington Meeting.

CHAPTER XLVI.

BOROUGH OF LANSDALE.

THE borough of Lansdale was incorporated August 24, 1872, and is situated on the line of the townships of Gwynedd and Hatfield, and close to the angles of Montgomery and Towamencin. It has an area of two hundred and sixty-nine acres, of which one hundred and forty-five were taken from Gwynedd and one hundred and twenty-four from Hatfield. Its form is regular and its principal streets are Broad, Main, Chestnut, Walnut, Second and Courtland. Nature and art have combined in beautifying this favored spot in Montgomery County. It is situated on a ridge and has every advantage of pure air, easy surface drainage and a widely-extended view of the fertile valleys, rolling uplands and distant woods of the surrounding country. The residents of the borough are progressive and industrious, and take a laudable local pride in the construction and beautifying of their homes, many being built in the cottage style, which, when surrounded with flowers, trailing vines, shrubbery and ornamental plants, present a picture of real beauty and comfort.

The town is supplied by water pumped from a three-hundred-foot artesian well. The water company is in a flourishing condition.

The North Pennsylvania Railroad passes through the centre of the place and the station here is twenty-one and seven-tenths miles from Philadelphia. The Doylestown Branch of said railroad (opened October 9, 1856), ten and two-thirds miles long, commences here, and the Stony Creek Railroad, starting at Main Street, Norristown, ten and three-tenths miles distant, forms a junction at this place with both of said roads. These lines meeting here make it an important railroad centre, and contribute to its business prosperity.

Several industries of considerable importance are located here,¹ the extensive agricultural works of

Heebner & Sons towering above all the rest, and owing to their enterprise and superior workmanship, they have carried the name of Lansdale almost to the remotest ends of the earth.

The present number of inhabitants of this borough is about twelve hundred and the number of taxables three hundred and five, with a real estate valuation of \$478,765.

There are two drug-stores, two confectioneries, two stove-stores, one jeweler, one dealer in live stock, two in lumber, two in boots and shoes, two in coal, two in flour and feed, four in merchandise, three in meat, two in furniture, one in cigars and tobacco, one in hardware and two in agricultural implements.

The first church edifice erected in Lansdale was the Methodist Episcopal. It was built of stone, thirty-six by fifty-five feet, in 1871, completed in the following year and dedicated July 14th, in that year. It at present has ninety members. The pastors who have served the church are as follows: Revs. H. U. Sebring, Amos Johnson, Robert McIlwaine, S. O. Garretson, William H. Smith, H. S. Isett, Eli E. Burrows, William H. Shafer and the present pastor, Rev. J. G. Bickerton.

The Evangelical Church at Lansdale is located adjoining the borough limits, and was built of brick, forty-six by sixty feet, in 1875. The church was organized in that year, and is united in charge with the Hatfield Evangelical Church. The pastors have been Revs. Shoemaker, John Ziegenfuss, William Heil, F. Kracker and the Rev. Leonard Noble, the present pastor. The church has a membership of about forty.

The Reformed Church was organized in 1877, and in that year erected a brick church edifice, forty by sixty feet. The pulpit was filled for two years by the Rev. Jacob Kehm and Rev. A. B. Koplin. In 1879 the Rev. H. F. Seipel was called to the pastorate, and served until April, 1884. The present pastor is Rev. J. J. Rothrock. The church has about eighty members.

The St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, located about half a mile from Lansdale, is of brick and was built in 1878. It has a seating capacity of about two hundred. The pastors have been the Rev. Henry Stommel and the present pastor, the Rev. Joseph A. Winter. The church was supplied for two or three years from Bethlehem.

The Baptist Church at the place was built in the fall of 1884, from plans and specifications furnished by Palissier, Palissier & Co., of Bridgeport, Conn. The society is under the care of the North Wales Baptist Church, of which the Rev. J. A. Aldred is pastor. The first service held in the church was on Sunday, February 8, 1885. The church edifice is built of brick, thirty-five by forty-six feet, and cost three thousand five hundred dollars. The chapel was dedicated March 11, 1885. The introductory sermon was delivered by the Rev. Dr. William Cathcart, and

¹ See Chapter "Manufactures."

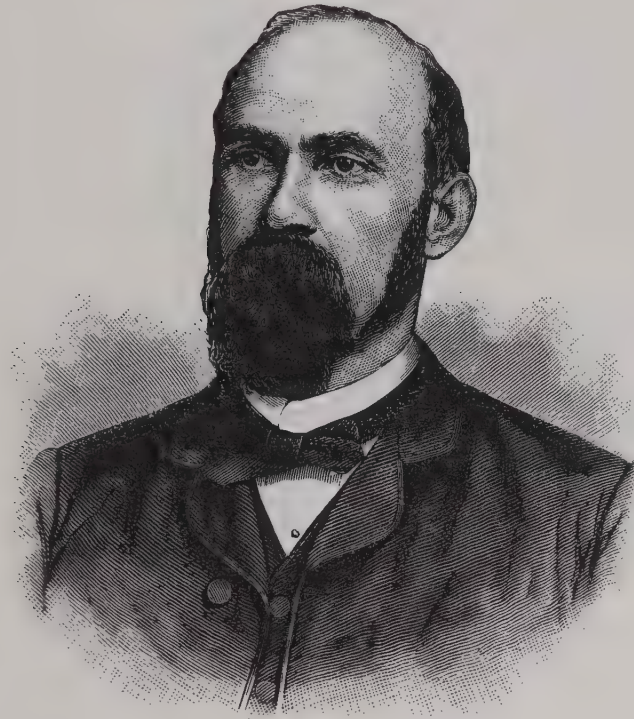
the dedicatory sermon by the Rev. Dr. John Peddie, of Philadelphia.

The Church of the Messiah, of Gwynedd, organized a mission in Lansdale February 8, 1885, with twenty-six communicants. A lot of ground has been pledged and it is the intention to build as soon as possible.

There are four public schools in the borough, with a term of nine months, and two hundred and twenty-three pupils in attendance. Four teachers are employed, one at a salary of fifty dollars per month, one at thirty-eight dollars and two at thirty dollars a month.

young, and locating at Skippackville, Pa., where he died in the spring of 1874, aged sixty-one years. His wife was Mary Stoll, born in Trumbauersville, Bucks Co., Pa., and is still living. Mr. Geller was a farmer and dealer in wood and woodlands.

Jacob S. Geller, the subject of this sketch, was born in Perkiomen township, Montgomery Co., July 3, 1846. Until young Geller was sixteen years of age he lived at home, except two summers, when he lived with Anthony S. Heebner, assisting his father on the farm and in the wood business, attending school occasionally, and not caring as much for books as he did for a fine Pennsylvania Dutch team of four or six horses.



J. S. Geller

The first election for borough officers occurred in September, 1872. The following is a list of the burgesses from that time to the present: 1872, A. B. Hickman; 1873, David S. Heebner; 1875, John Kindig; 1876-79, David S. Heebner; 1880-81, Oliver M. Evans; 1882-83-84, William D. Heebner; 1885, William H. Fuhr.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JACOB S. GELLER.

Jacob S. Geller is of German descent, his father, Henry Geller, immigrating to this country when quite

October 27, 1862, he engaged with D. H. Anders to take charge of what is popularly known in this section of country as a "commission wagon," where he remained about two years. This was really his first schooling, for in that business it became necessary for him to read and write and keep accounts. After serving two years he engaged with N. H. Anders of Palm Station, in the same business, and remained two years, when Anders sold his business, and Geller then engaged with A. K. Frick, a grocer of Philadelphia, where he remained but a short time, and returned to the parental roof.

January 1, 1866, without any capital, young Geller purchased of D. H. Anders his commission route,

team and fixtures, and commenced business for himself, and on February 18, 1867, sold out, and on March 25, 1867, he engaged with John Herst, of Pennsberry, to work on a commission wagon at a good salary, but not satisfied with that, preferring a business of his own, on July 9, 1867, purchased of Franklin Rodenberger, of Hoppinsville, this county, his commission route, team and fixtures, which he operated for two years, or until November 14, 1868, when he sold out to Charles Roth, and established a route at Skippackville, which he kept for about one year, when he met with an accident, having his arm broken by a runaway horse, after which he sold out and engaged with Jonathan Wonsitler, of Doylestown, where he remained but a short time, when he repurchased of Charles Roth January 15, 1870, the old Hoppinsville commission route, which, by the advice of a friend, who said, "If you do good, let better alone," he kept till the spring of 1873, when he purchased the Hoppinsville store property, together with eighteen acres of land, of Mrs. David Cristman, taking possession July 9, 1873. Here he commenced the mercantile business in a small way, in an old store building, twenty by thirty feet, purchasing the stock and fixtures of B. H. Roth.

March 17, 1875, he sold the stock and fixtures to B. H. Roth, and purchased, April 1, 1875, the stock and fixtures of Lyman Rosenberger, at Kulpville, and here established another commission route. In the spring of 1876 he purchased the Hoppinsville store property at sheriff's sale, and in April of that year stocked the store, and run that and the Kulpville store till January, 1877, when he sold the Kulpville store, stock and fixtures to Messrs. Krupp & Cassel, and in July, 1877, sold the Hoppinsville stock and fixtures to M. H. Massey, of Philadelphia.

In July, 1878, he purchased of John Kindig his Lansdale property, consisting of building lots, store and fixtures, and removed the old one-story building and erected the present large and commodious three-story store and dwelling, and in the fall of 1878 commenced the mercantile business, with two clerks, and has continued to increase his business until he now (1885) employs ten clerks in his store, and carries the largest stock of goods found in any store in Montgomery County.

In the spring of 1884, finding his mammoth store too small for the increased business, he rented three floors and basement of the Godshall block, adjoining his own store, and stocked the same with furniture, carpets and undertaker's ware, which he still occupies.

Mr. Geller is one of the progressive men of the age, giving his time and means for the advancement of every enterprise or interest that has for its object the growth and improvement of the borough of Lansdale or the bettering of the condition of his fellow-men.

He is an active member of the Wentz German Reformed Church, and has been a member of the Borough Council for two terms, and postmaster of Lansdale since November 6, 1878, when he was appointed by Postmaster-General David M. Key. He was also postmaster at Hoppinsville and at Kulpville while he had a store at each of these places. He was one of the original members of the Lansdale Water-Works Company, and has been one of its directors since its organization. He was married, February 6, 1868, to Miss Isabella H., daughter of Washington and Margaret Crater, of Skippackville, Montgomery Co., Pa. They have one daughter, Mary Maggie, born March 31, 1870.

SETH L. SCHOLL.

In the year 1778, George and John Scholl emigrated from Germany and came to America, John locating in Virginia, while George, who was a saddler and harness-maker by occupation, enlisted in the Continental army as a saddler, and served to the close of the war; his little family in the mean time resided in the vicinity of Philadelphia. At the close of the war he went up into what was then called the wilderness, on Branch Creek, near where Trumbaursville is now located, and took up a tract of three hundred acres of land, and there raised a family of children, one of whom was Michael Scholl, born December 1, 1784, and was the grandfather of Seth L. Scholl, of Lansdale.

Michael married, July 12, 1807, Mary, daughter of Conrad Hoot, of what is now North Wales, then Gwynedd township, and died February 25, 1858. Mary Hoot was born October 7, 1789, and died March 25, 1870. Michael Scholl and wife were both buried in Wentz Reformed Church Cemetery, on the Skippack road, above Centre Point. They had children,—Jacob, Margaret, Catharine, Henry (born July 25, 1816, in Germantown, Pa.), Matilda, George, Amanda, Elizabeth. Of the above children, Henry married, December 1, 1839, Mary Ann, daughter of Andrew and Eustina Lake, of the city of Philadelphia. Mary Ann Lake was born October 5, 1820. Their children were,—Maria, born Tenth Month 5, 1840, married John F. Ambler, and now a resident of Lansdale, Seth L., born Tenth Month 8, 1842, married, June 7, 1866, to Miss Ann Catharine Ambler, daughter of Benjamin and Mary Ambler, of Blue Bell, Whitpain township. Frederick, born April 23, 1844, married Louessa, daughter of Seth Good, December 5, 1872; Louessa Good, born October 13, 1849. Franklin, born February 9, 1846, married, May 16, 1874, Miss Sarah Beck, who was born June 18, 1856. Sarah, born in 1848, died unmarried, — 1870. Elizabeth, born January, 31, 1851, married, October 6, 1870, to Henry L. Beck; Henry L. Beck was born September, 1850. Henry L. Scholl was born May 1, 1854, married December 25, 1879, to Miss Letitia R. Pownall.

Seth L. and Ann Catharine Scholl are the parents of children, as follows: Benjamin A., born April 7, 1867; Henry O., born February 16, 1869; Horace Linwood, born January 12, 1871, died September 17, 1872; Ida May, born November 5, 1872; Mary Ella, born June 11, 1878.

John Ambler, paternal grandfather of Mrs. Seth L. Scholl, was born Fifth Month 8, 1783, died Fourth Month 9, 1859. He married Ann Morgan, who was born Fifth Month 8, 1784, and died Fourth Month 4, 1863. Their children were Thomas, Benjamin, Chalkley, Joseph, John and David (twins), Septimus, Letitia and Sarah.

Seth L. Scholl, was born Seventh Month 4, 1791, died Twelfth Month 4, 1872. His wife, Catharine, was born Ninth Month 9, 1790, and died Seventh Month 14, 1872.

Seth L. Scholl is what is commonly termed a self-made man. He was born on the farm then owned by James White, and occupied in 1885 by his grandson, James Winfield White. His educational advantages were quite limited, although belonging to one of the oldest families of the vicinity of what is now Lansdale. At the age of eleven years he commenced his labors in a brick-yard, and assisted in making the first brick made at Lansdale, now one of the large



Seth L. Scholl

Benjamin Ambler, father of Mrs. Scholl, was born in Montgomery township, Montgomery Co., Pa., Ninth Month 3, 1810, married, Third Month 1, 1838, Mary, daughter of John and Catharine Fitzgerald. Their children are John F., born Seventh Month 12, 1840, married, First Month 28, 1864, Maria Scholl. Ann Catharine, wife of Seth L. Scholl, born Fifth Month 30, 1842. Thomas Elwood, born Eleventh Month 30, 1843, married, Sixth Month 20, 1867, to Harriet E. Makens. Benjamin Morgan, born Sixth Month 13, 1846, married, Third Month 5, 1868, to Elizabeth Street.

John Fitzgerald, maternal grandfather of Mrs.

industries of the town, and of which he is the most extensive manufacturer in Lansdale. By industry and perseverance he grew up with the business, became master of the art and in due time became the owner of a large landed estate in and adjoining the town of Lansdale, and has thus far been prominently identified with all the progressive movements of the young and thriving town.

He was a member of the first Town Council of the borough of Lansdale, and has been a member of its school board. He is one of the original members of St. John's Reformed Church of Lansdale, and for several years one of its deacons. He has been a

member of the order of I. O. of O. F. since 1864, passed through the chairs and is also a member of the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania; also a member of the I. O. of Red Men. He has resided in Lansdale for forty-one years, a much longer period than any other present resident of the town.

He is the patentee and only manufacturer in the United States of the "Locomotive Snow Broom," made of hickory wood, and his sales extend to all countries where railroads are in operation. He is also quite an extensive manufacturer of cigar-boxes of all sizes and grades.

After serving his time, or at the age of twenty-one years, he was engaged as a journeyman carpenter for three years. He then established business for himself, which he conducted nearly or quite three years, then one year at journeyman's work, when he again established business for himself, which he continued till 1859, when he moved to Montgomery township, Montgomery Co., Pa., where he purchased a farm. Here he carried on both farming and the carpenter and builder's trade for thirteen years, when his health failed, on account of which he was compelled to relinquish the agricultural branch of his business, sold



William Richardson

WILLIAM RICHARDSON.

William Richardson, son of William and Mary Richardson, is a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and was born in that city January 1, 1822. Prior to and including his sixteenth year his life was spent at home, and for a short time in what was known at that time as a "pay school" in Gaskill Street, and subsequently at a public school in Front Street. At the age of sixteen years he was apprenticed to learn the trade of a carpenter and joiner, and faithfully served his time with his master in the old Southwark district. While serving his time as an apprentice he attended Mr. Benjamin Lewis' school, at his own expense, where he learned, among other things, the art or profession of drafting.

his farm and removed to his present place of residence, adjacent to the borough of Lansdale.

Mr. Richardson has, since in active service for himself, been one of the progressive men of the age; first and foremost in any and all improvements tending to advance the interests of the community in which he has dwelt. He was one of the originators and one of the board of directors of the Lansdale Water-Works, which is a lasting monument to its projectors. When there was a prospect for building up the town of Lansdale he became one of the projectors of and president of two building associations. Another worthy enterprise found in him a strong supporter, viz.: "The Lansdale Cemetery Association," of which he is president. In 1875 he was

elected a justice of the peace for the township of Montgomery, a position he has adorned and still occupies.

He was married, January 23, 1849, to Miss Margaret (born October 24, 1831), daughter of Jacob and Mary Shields, of the old district of Southwark. Their children are William E., born September 23, 1849, married, June 30, 1877, to Miss Mary B. Thompson; Jacob Shields, born March 12, 1851, died November 1, 1851; George, born June 12, 1852, died December 4, 1852; Mary Jane, born July 17, 1854, married, January 21, 1879, to Daniel Koch, of Lansdale; Anna Loage, born February 10, 1857, married, December 7, 1881, to Charles J. Wheeler, of Lansdale; Maggie Shields, born June 9, 1859, married, December 8, 1883, to Samuel Ryner, of Line Lexington, Montgomery Co., Pa.; Clara Virginia, born December 18, 1862; Harry, born April 24, 1866; Edmund, born September 23, 1869; Lilly May, born April 26, 1875, died January 18, 1876.

CHAPTER XLVII.

BOROUGH OF NORRISTOWN.

THE borough of Norristown is situated on the east side of the Schuylkill River, about sixteen miles northwest of Philadelphia, and is the seat of justice for Montgomery County. Since the extension of its limits in 1853 it is nearly two miles square, and contains an area of about two thousand three hundred acres, divided into seven wards. Its front on the river is fully two miles, and extends back from the same a distance of from one and a half to two miles, and is bounded on the north, northeast and northwest by Norriton township southeast by Plymouth, and on the south and southwest by the Schuylkill. It was erected into a borough by an act of Assembly, passed March 31, 1812, with an area of five hundred and twenty acres, and all its territory has been taken from Norriton, with the exception of about one hundred and fifty-eight acres from Plymouth township in 1853.

Its surface is rolling, and that part on which the town is principally situated enjoys an elevated site, from the rear of which an extensive view is obtained of the fine scenery of the Schuylkill Valley. Both adjacent to and in the vicinity of the town the soil is excellent. Norristown combines from its situation great advantages, and in this respect few towns are so favored. It is remarkably healthy, its location beautiful, its water excellent and its neighborhood unsurpassed in the quality and abundance of its marble, iron and limestone. Within its limits two streams enter the Schuylkill. The larger is Stony Creek, which has its source in Whitpain township, and is

seven miles in length, two of which are in the borough. This stream, with its branches, propels six grist-mills, two saw-mills, besides several manufactories. Saw-Mill Run rises also in Whitpain, and is four miles in length, and in its course propels a clover-mill, grist and saw-mill, besides several manufacturing establishments.

As may be expected from a town so advantageously situated, and, above all, having an enterprising population, it has rapidly advanced. According to the census of 1820, it contained 827 inhabitants; in 1830, 1039; in 1840, 2937; in 1850, 6024; in 1860, 8848; in 1870, 10,753; and in 1880, 13,163. The real estate for taxable purposes in 1882 was valued at \$6,310,263. For that year 3934 taxables were returned, possessing property assessed at \$6,774,473, the average per taxable being \$1722, while in Norriton township it is \$2834; Plymouth, \$2804; Whitpain, \$3443; and in Lower Providence, \$3553. In May, 1883, the borough contained 281 licensed retailers and dealers, besides 29 hotels, 13 restaurants, 8 liquor-stores and two breweries. The stores in 1840 numbered only 14; in 1858, 108 and in 1876, 193. In 1790 it contained 18 houses; in 1832, 151; in 1850, 1006; and in 1860, 1662 dwellings occupied by 1673 families. It has also attained considerable importance as a manufacturing town, having 10 cotton and woolen-factories, 2 furnaces, 2 rolling-mills, 3 foundries and iron-works, 2 tack-works, 2 shirt and 2 hosiery-factories, 3 lumber and planing-mills, 2 merchant flour-mills, oil-works, glass-works, gleaner and binder-works, besides numerous minor establishments.

Owing to the increase of population an act of Assembly was passed February 8, 1847, authorizing the authorities of the borough to divide it into what was called the Upper and Lower Wards. It thus remained until the passage of the act of 1852, when it was divided into the Upper, Middle and Lower Wards. According to the act of Assembly, passed May 12, 1871, it was further divided into First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Wards. This power having now been vested in the Court of Quarter Sessions for the county, the latter confirmed December 22, 1881, and an additional ward was formed from the first three, to be called the Sixth Ward. Three commissioners were appointed by the authority of the Court, who on May 20, 1884, divided the First Ward and formed from it the Seventh, which is to comprise all the territory within the borough limits westward of Chain Street, as it extends from the Schuylkill northwards to Elm.

Public Improvements.—The various improvements leading to or through this borough have contributed much to its prosperity. In the order of time, the first that may be mentioned is the Ridge turnpike, leading from Philadelphia to Perkiomen bridge, twenty-four miles in length, and passing through the borough on Main or Egypt Street for two miles. The Schuylkill Canal and Navigation was commenced in

1816, and was sufficiently completed in 1818 to admit the descent of a few boats; but it was not until about 1826 that the whole line went into operation. The company constructed a dam here of nine hundred feet width between the abutments, which in 1830 was raised to its present height, and is the means of furnishing valuable water-power to several manufacturing establishments. In consequence of the enlargement in 1846, boats of two hundred tons burden pass through it and can unload coal, grain and lumber in the place.

The bridge over the Schuylkill at De Kalb Street was commenced in the spring of 1829, and by September was so far completed as to admit persons on foot to pass over. It was built by an incorporated company in 1830, at a cost of thirty-one thousand two hundred dollars, and commenced taking toll January 9th of said year. It is eight hundred feet in length, and, with the abutments, ten hundred and fifty feet. The first president was Mathias Roberts; Joseph Thomas, treasurer; Thomas M. Jolly, secretary; and William Le Barrow, builder and contractor. It has since been rebuilt, the County holding stock in it to the amount of twenty-three thousand dollars. Owing to the extensive travel over it and the great amount of receipts derived from toll, the subject of making it free or building a new bridge commenced to be agitated more than thirteen years ago by numerous citizens residing on both sides the river, particularly those in Bridgeport and Upper Merion, who were from the force of their circumstances the more interested. Strange to say, through clever ingenuity, an act of Assembly was passed in 1872, of general application, prohibiting the building of any bridge across the same stream within the distance of three thousand feet of a toll-bridge already erected. When a new bridge had been proposed this act was brought to public attention, and, as may be well expected, such legislation created no little astonishment. A Free Bridge Association was now organized, and after a long and severe struggle triumphed, and the bridge declared free October 13, 1884, the county taking it in charge.

The State road in the borough, called De Kalb Street, was laid out in 1830, forty feet wide, from New Hope, on the Delaware, to the Maryland line.

The Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad Company was incorporated by an act of Assembly passed February 17, 1831. It was commenced that year, and was opened from the city to Germantown June 6, 1832, in what would now be considered a novel manner: namely, by nine cars, or rather carriages, each drawn by one horse in shafts, and containing twenty passengers inside and sixteen outside, making in all three hundred and twenty-four guests. This was in reality a passenger railway upwards of fifty-two years ago. What is equally singular, the road was opened in a similar manner to Manayunk October 18, 1834. Saturday, August 15, 1835, was a great day in Norristown. The road was now completed, and the opening was to be duly

celebrated. Two trains of cars, each drawn by a locomotive, started from the depot, corner of Ninth and Green Streets, Philadelphia, at twelve o'clock, well-laden with invited guests. The locomotives were gayly dressed with flags and a band of music enlivened the way, and the only stoppage was made at Manayunk. The approach to Norristown, as well as the ride along the entire way, was one continued triumph. Cheers and shouts of welcome were heard in all directions, while the waving of handkerchiefs expressed the congratulations of the fair. Thousands collected together to behold for the first time the iron horses, and gazed on them with wonder. For this occasion the company erected a large tent in the borough, near the river's bank, where three hundred and fifty guests sat down to a sumptuous banquet. This road, with its branch to Germantown, is twenty-one miles in length, and cost one million eight hundred and eleven thousand dollars. About 1856 the company built a large depot in the borough, on the corner of Mill and Washington streets, and laid the entire road with a double track, and later built the Main Street Station. This improvement extends through Montgomery County somewhat over seven miles. The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company leased the road December 1, 1870, and also the works of the Navigation Company, July 12th previously, since which time they have operated both.

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, which is on the opposite side of the river and extends to Pottsville, was opened the whole distance in 1872. The Swedes' Ford Bridge Company was incorporated March 30, 1848, and the bridge completed in 1851, at a cost of forty thousand dollars. It is composed of four spans of two hundred and twenty feet in length. The Chester Valley Railroad crosses it, and forms a connection with the Norristown road, and also with the Pennsylvania Railroad at Downingtown. Where Main Street and the turnpike cross Stony Creek a broad and substantial stone bridge was built in 1854, by contributions from the borough, turnpike company and several citizens. A bridge must have been here before the organization of the county, for in 1786 the grand jury reported that they "found the foundation of the main abutment undermined dangerously, and that the first stone of the arch had given away." The Stony Creek Railroad has a depot near Main Street, on the west side of the stream, and passes through the borough nearly two miles and forms a junction with the North Pennsylvania Railroad at Lansdale. It was commenced in 1871, and opened for travel January 1, 1874, and is nearly ten and one-half miles in length. This has also been leased and operated by the Reading Company. The Schuylkill Valley Railroad, leading from Philadelphia to Pottsville, was commenced in 1883 and completed the following year, and enters the borough on Lafayette Street. The depot is at the intersection of the aforesaid street with De Kalb. This improvement fol-

lows the Schuylkill and extends over half the length of the county. A new depot was erected in 1884 on Franklin Avenue. This railroad is now under lease to the Pennsylvania Railroad, and is known as the Schuylkill Division.

The Norristown Junction Railroad Company was chartered for the purpose of building a road to connect the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad and the Stony Creek Railroad, and thereby save the transfer of freight, by wagons, from one depot to the other. The road was built in 1880, and extends from Marshall to Washington Street, along and near to Markley Street. After completion it was leased to the Philadelphia and Reading and Stony Creek Railroads, by whom it is operated.

The water-works were incorporated in 1847, under the title of "The Norristown Insurance and Water Company." They were erected that year, at a cost of sixty-two thousand dollars. After using the insurance privilege a few years it was abandoned. In 1875 the company erected a new engine-house, with large pumps, to which they had the water conveyed from beyond Barbadoes Island in 1876, at a considerable expense. In 1879, the old basin being found too small, another, also on De Kalb Street, was constructed on higher ground, with a new ascending main, the whole costing eighty-five thousand dollars more. It is supposed that the company have now in use about forty miles of iron pipe. The water was first introduced in December, 1847, and is forced from the Schuylkill to the basin, a distance of three-fourths of a mile.

The Fire Department consists of three steam fire-engines and one hose company. The Norristown Hose and Steam Fire-Engine Company, No. 1, was instituted in 1847. After outgrowing two previous engine-houses, it is now located in a large three-story brick edifice, at the corner of DeKalb and Chestnut Streets. The building was erected in 1883, at a cost of nearly sixteen thousand dollars. It has an Amoskeag steamer. The company consists of two hundred and fourteen active and one hundred and twelve honorary and contributing members. The Montgomery Fire Engine Company, No. 1, also instituted in 1847. The engine-house is a three-story brick building, erected in 1870, at a cost of nearly fifteen thousand dollars, and is located on Penn Street, below Swede. They possess a Silsby steamer, of great power, that cost four thousand five hundred dollars; they have also two hose-carriages with eighteen hundred feet of hose. They have in charge the old "Pat Lyon" hand-engine, built by Patrick Lyon, of Philadelphia, in 1797. This company comprises two hundred active members. The Humane Fire Engine Company, instituted in 1852, own a Button steam fire-engine, with a full supply of hose. They possess a large four-story brick building, erected in 1854, with a cupola, bell and look-out, located on Airy Street above De Kalb. The horses are kept stabled on the premises. They own real estate and personal property valued at fifteen thousand dollars. They

have about two hundred active members. The Fairmount Hook-and-Ladder and Hose Company was instituted in February, 1852. Soon after organization the company purchased a hand fire-engine, built by Agnew, of Philadelphia, which they used until 1868, when they sold it to the Keystone Fire Company, of Boyertown. In 1869 the company purchased the large hook-and-ladder truck they are still using. They have also a hose-carriage and fourteen hundred feet of hose. In 1854 the company erected an engine-house on De Kalb Street, above Lafayette, which was used until 1860, when a larger one was erected, on Lafayette Street, above Cherry, and used until the completion of the present three-story brick building, in 1880, on the corner of Main and Astor Streets. The real estate and apparatus is valued at fifteen thousand dollars. It numbers one hundred and twenty-five active and fifty honorary members.

Two engines, with stone houses, are mentioned in 1830, and in 1858 two engines and two hose companies.

The gas-works are located on Washington Street, below Arch, and were erected in 1852, at a cost of forty thousand dollars. Most of the streets of the borough are underlaid with their distributing pipes. Three market-houses are in the place. The De Kalb Street Market-house is owned by the borough and extends from Airy to Marshall Streets, contains one hundred and fourteen stalls and was erected in 1850-51. The Farmers' Market belongs to a company and is located at the corner of De Kalb and Marshall Streets, is one story high, with a basement of brick, built in 1859; contains one hundred and twenty-seven stalls. The Western Market is located at Marshall and Chain Streets, built in 1875, of brick, two stories high; contains fifty-one stalls. A company has been formed to build a street railway, and in July, 1884, the route was located to commence at the depot of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, on Mill Street, thence to Main, to De Kalb, to Brown, to Powell, to Main, to De Kalb, to Lafayette, at the depot of the Schuylkill Valley Railroad.

Manufactories.¹—Norristown has attained considerable importance as a manufacturing town, and we shall only attempt now to give but brief notices of its principal establishments. The extensive iron-works of James Hooven & Sons are located at the foot of Barbadoes Street. A portion was erected in 1846, at which time Mr. Hooven had entered into partnership with Mr. Moore, whom the former bought out in 1853, and in 1862 associated with him his two sons, Joseph Henry and Alexander. In 1869 they erected here one of the most complete blast furnaces in the county, the ore used being from their own mines in Montgomery and Chester Counties. The annual capacity is ten thousand net tons. The chief manufacture is skelp-iron and gas-pipes.

The Lucinda Furnace and Rolling-Mill was erected

¹See chapter "Manufactures."

in 1853, at the mouth of the Stony Creek, by William Shall & Sons. The former is now conducted by Samuel Fulton for the production of pig-iron. The latter is in charge of J. H. Boone, for sheared, skelp and plate-iron, and was originally erected in 1849, but rebuilt in 1879. The rolling-mill of the Standard Iron Company (Limited) is located on Washington Street, below Ford, and manufactures heavy plate-iron. Its annual capacity is fourteen thousand net tons; this was also originally erected by William Shall in 1857. The Eagle Foundry and Machine-Works are conducted by R. S. Newbold & Son, who manufacture all descriptions of heavy machinery. Christopher Rittenhouse & Sons, at Main and Arch Streets, pursue a general foundry business, and are extensively engaged in the manufacture of agricultural machinery, such as horse-powers, threshers and winnowing-mills. About 1850 the proprietor entered into the business, and the works were enlarged in 1868.

The Norristown Iron Company (Limited) have erected new machine-works at the corner of Washington and Market Streets. The Lowe Manufacturing Company produce machinery for "water gas-works," of which Professor T. S. C. Lowe is the patentee. The works were erected in 1878, and are located between Main and Lafayette Streets, on the line of Saw-Mill Run. The Pennsylvania Tack-Works, founded in 1870 by C. P. Weaver & Co., is an extensive establishment, located at the corner of Penn and Markley Streets, for the production of tacks and fancy braids. The Globe Tack-Works, near Oak and Arch Streets, owned by Thomas & Kenworthy, manufacture the same articles. J. & G. Gibbons are extensively engaged in the production of steam-boilers.

Among the extensive manufactories in textile fabrics is the large cotton-spinning and weaving mill of William Simpson & Sons, originally founded by Bernard McCredy, at the foot of Swede Street, in 1826, the motive-power being derived from the Schuylkill. Mr. Simpson purchased this property June 20, 1865, to which belong seventy dwelling-houses, occupying two squares of ground. Samuel Jamison's extensive spinning and weaving-mill is situated at the foot of De Kalb Street, a portion of which was erected in 1837. In 1858 it was conducted by William & Samuel Jamison, and has been in the family for a considerable time.

The woolen-mill on the river-front in the First Ward, founded by William Hamill in 1840, was considerably enlarged in 1861 by P. M. Hunter. Since 1868, William Watt has been proprietor; the principal product has been Kentucky jeans. George Bullock carries on the manufacture of fine broad and Union cloths at his factory, located on Main Street and Saw-Mill Run. The Blue Mill, on the same stream, was erected about 1850 by Joseph H. Bodey, and has recently been carried on by Shaw & Kenworthy. J. Y. Cresson has a woolen-mill at Ford and Lafayette

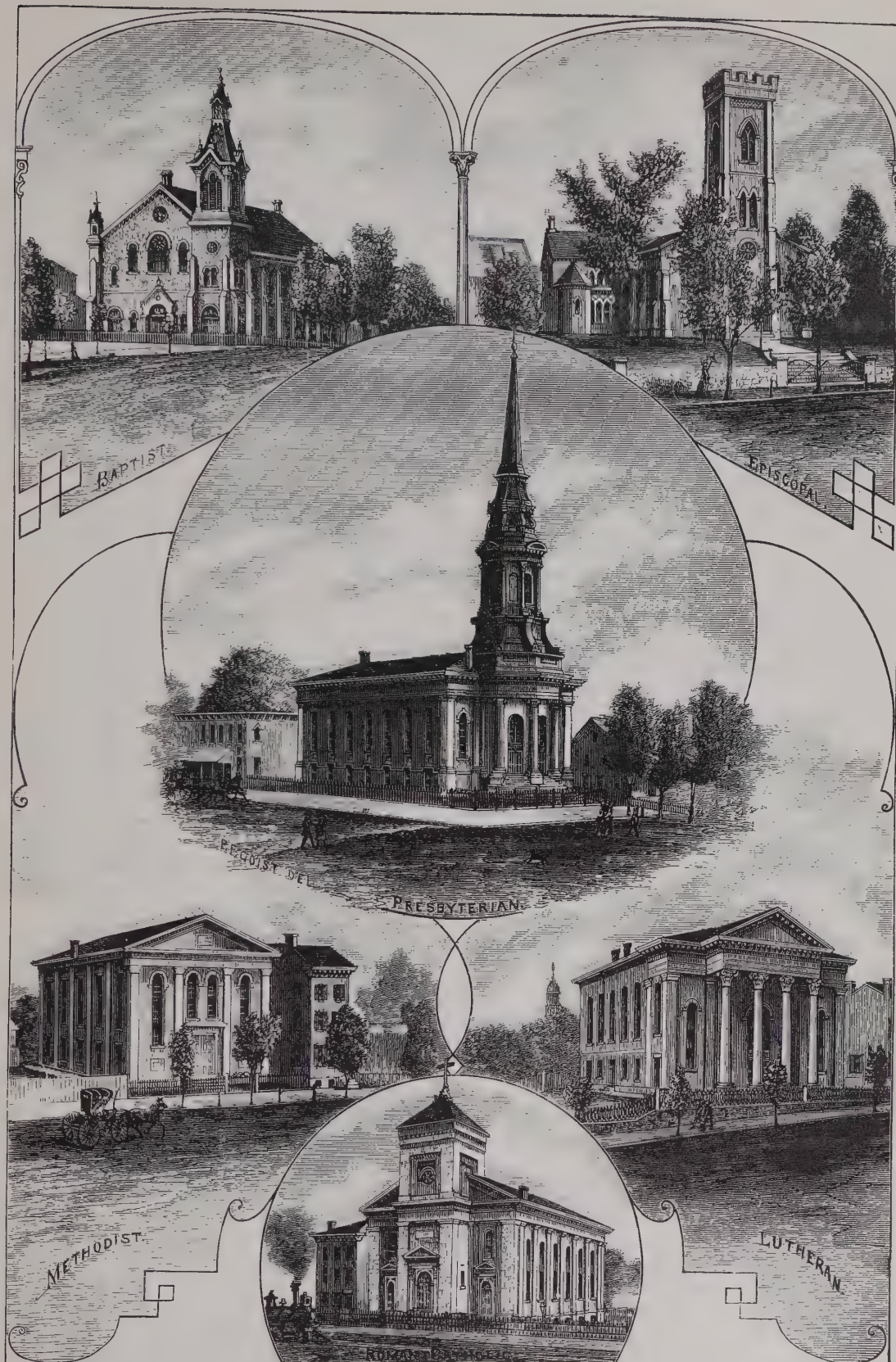
Streets. The Good-Intent Mill, erected in 1863 on Barbadoes Street, is now carried on by Brown & Haines.

There are several manufactories of hosiery in Norristown. Probably the most extensive is the Keystone Hosiery Company's establishment, conducted by Morgan Wright & Son, on Penn Street, above Barbadoes, in a new three-story brick building. The next is that of the Norristown Hosiery Company, in charge of Yost, Hengie & Roop, who have a large factory in the rear of the county prison. Both of these are propelled by steam-power. The Quaker City Shirt-Factory is owned and carried on by Chester L. Smith, and is located on Corson Street, near Marshall, erected in 1879. John C. Hathaway, on George Street, near Airy, also carries on the aforesaid manufacture extensively by steam-power.

The Star Glass-Works, owned and carried on by J. Morton Albertson & Sons, are located on Washington Street, below Ford. This enterprise was started in 1865, but did not prove successful. The present proprietor purchased the works in March, 1871. The buildings are about two hundred and fifty by three hundred feet in dimensions; the capacity is one hundred boxes of window-glass per day. Glass is produced here as large as forty by sixty inches. Articles from this material are produced in great variety and its manufacture is carried on extensively. The oil-works of William Slemmer & Co., are located at Main and Ford Streets, extending to Lafayette Street. An extensive business is done here in distilling and refining petroleum for illuminating, but more especially for lubricating purposes. Buildings were commenced here in the fall of 1861 by Jacob C., William and Dr. Henry T. Slemmer, sons of Adam Slemmer. A patent was secured in 1866 for the lubricator.

The manufacture of Hubbard's gleaner and binder is carried on by George A. Singerly in extensive buildings located at Oak and Astor Streets, erected in 1878. There are two large flouring-mills. The first is known as the Egypt Mill (late Heebner's), situated at the foot of Mill Street, and is propelled jointly by the waters of Saw-Mill Run and the Schuylkill. It has conveniences for doing a large business. The other is owned by George Morgan, occupying a new stone building at Marshall and Barbadoes Streets, and is propelled by Stony Creek and steam-power. Three lumber and planing-mills are in the place. Two are located near Main Street and Stony Creek. The first, on the right bank, is conducted by Botton's Sons, and the other, on the opposite side, by Bodey & Livingston, formerly Wentz & Co. Guest & Longaker carry on the business at the corner of Main and Arch Streets, in which they have been engaged since 1858, if not before.

Churches.—The borough at the present time contains seventeen churches, belonging to the following denominations: One Episcopal, two Presbyterian, one Baptist, three Methodist Episcopal, one Catholic, two



CHURCHES IN NORRISTOWN.

German Reformed, two Lutheran, one Friends, one Evangelical Association, one German Baptist or Dunkard, and two Colored Methodist. In 1830 the only two churches were the Episcopal and Presbyterian, which at this date maintained Sunday-schools. In 1842 the churches had increased to five, in 1849 to eight, and in 1858 to thirteen. According to the census of 1860, the church property in Norristown was valued at one hundred and sixty-eight thousand nine hundred dollars.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH was the first erected in the place, and was commenced in 1813 and dedicated for worship April 6, 1815. The building committee consisted of Henry Freedley, Mathias Holstein and Levi Pawling. It was located on Airy Street, and built of stone in the Gothic style, fifty feet front by eighty feet deep. The congregation had been organized December 17, 1812. Its first rector was Rev. John Curtis Clay, succeeded by Revs. Thomas P. May, Bird Wilson, John Reynolds, Nathan Stem, D.D., John Woart, Eaton W. Maxey, George W. Brown, Charles E. McIlvaine and Isaac Gibson, the present incumbent, who became rector in 1872. Rev. Thomas Potts May died in 1819, and was interred near the vestry-room door. Dr. Stem had the charge from 1839 until his death, in the fall of 1859, in which period several important improvements were made. A handsome rectory was built about 1845. In 1856 and the following year the church was enlarged to the extremes of fifty-six by one hundred and nine feet, buttresses and a belfry were added, besides extensive interior improvements, costing eight thousand dollars. A new organ was placed in the church in March, 1858. During Mr. Maxey's rectorship, in 1861, a spacious and ornamental chapel and other extensive improvements were added, at an expense of nine thousand dollars. Adjoining is a large cemetery, still used for burial purposes. In 1869 a bequest of about twenty-two thousand dollars was left to the church by John Boyer, three thousand dollars of which was specially to the poor fund of the church. The present membership is three hundred and twenty, with two hundred and eighty pupils attending the Sabbath-school.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was built in 1819, of stone, thirty by sixty feet in dimensions, at the northwest corner of Airy and De Kalb Streets. Its first pastor was the Rev. Joseph Barr, who also had at this time the charge of the Norristown and Providence Churches and also taught a school in the academy. The Rev. Charles E. Nassau was next succeeded by Rev. Robert Adair, to whom, in 1834, was given this church alone. The next was Rev. Samuel M. Gould, from 1838 to 1850; Rev. Randolph A. Smith, until 1856, when Job Halsey, D.D., became minister until 1881. The present incumbent is Rev. William B. Noble, D. D. In 1839 the front was demolished, the side-walls underpinned and twenty-five feet added to the depth of the building, thus providing a basement.

The whole structure was torn down in 1854, when the present handsome edifice was erected and completed the following year on its site, at an expense of thirty thousand dollars. Its steeple attains an elevation of two hundred feet, being the highest in Norristown. Attached in the rear is a cemetery and a cottage parsonage fronting on Airy Street. Its membership is three hundred and seventy, and Sunday-school attendance three hundred.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH, corner of Swede and Airy Streets, was originally built in 1833, at a cost, including the ground, of seven thousand dollars, the congregation having been organized December 12, 1832. It was a plain stone structure, of medium size, the first pastor of which was Rev. William Jordan, who retired from the charge in 1834, succeeded by Revs. Hiram Hutchins, William E. Cornwell, Roswell Cheney, Alfred Pinney, Hardin Wheat and George Frear, D.D. Rev. Samuel Aaron was pastor from March, 1841, to 1844. A gallery was added in 1841, and in 1850, a legacy having been left for the purpose, a new front was added, with a cupola, in all about one hundred feet high; at the same time the whole exterior and interior was improved, at a cost of about four thousand dollars. During the pastorate of Dr. Frear, from 1871 to 1875, the edifice was torn down and a new brown-stone Gothic structure erected, with buttresses of cut-stone and surmounted with a belfry, the whole costing twenty-five thousand dollars. Rev. Simeon Siegfried, who was chosen in 1875, died in 1879, and was succeeded in 1880 by the present incumbent, Rev. Nelson B. Randall. Its present membership is five hundred and sixty-seven, and five hundred and eighty teachers and pupils in the Sabbath-school. A capacious and elevated cemetery belonging to the church is situated in the eastern suburb of the borough. Before the erection of the church, in 1833, the congregation worshipped in the academy and court-house.

THE FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH¹ was originally built of stone, on Main Street, below Arch, in 1834, of which the Rev. John Findley had charge as preacher on the circuit, who was succeeded by Revs. John Woolson and William K. Goentner. In the summer of 1857 this property was sold, and the present large two-story brick edifice erected in its place, on De Kalb Street, below Marshall, and dedicated in November, 1858, to which a parsonage has since been added, the ground having been originally part of a lot belonging to the First Presbyterian Church. The present pastor is Rev. S. H. C. Smith. Membership, three hundred and twelve, and three hundred and seventy-two pupils on the Sunday-school roll.

THE OAK STREET METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH congregation was organized July 11, 1854, and the building completed the following year. It is a brick edifice, to which belongs a neat parsonage. Its first pastors were Revs. J. F. Meredith and J. Y. Ashton. The Rev. G.

¹ See chapter, "Religious Denominations, Methodism."

W. F. Graff has present charge. Membership, one hundred and eighty-four; teachers and pupils in Sabbath-school, two hundred and seventy-five.

HAWES AVENUE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH is a stone building, erected in 1875, standing at the corner of Marshall Street. Membership, eighty; teachers and pupils in Sabbath-school, one hundred and fifty.

ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, situated on Washington Street, below Barbadoes, was originally built in 1837, of stone, three-stories high, the congregation having been organized the previous year. The pastors have been Revs. Michael O'Connor, Patrick Nugent, Jeremiah O'Donohue, Dennis O'Hara, Pierce Maher and John Monahan, the present incumbent, assisted by Rev. James Monahan. The church becoming too small, another was erected, of stone, in 1859, sixty-five by one hundred and forty-five feet in dimensions, of which the corner-stone was laid by Bishop Neuman in August of that year. It is in modern style, with a belfry and large basement-rooms. Adjoining is a large brick rectory and three dwellings, in which schools are taught by the Sisters. The congregation is estimated at three thousand and the Sunday-school attendance seven hundred. The parochial school was started in 1875 and the pupils now number about five hundred. Two cemeteries belong to the church, one of which is on the south side of Main Street, beyond Stony Creek, the other on De Kalb Street road, a quarter of a mile from the borough line.

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION was built in 1847, and its congregation organized the previous year. It is a stone edifice located on Airy Street, below Swede. In 1859 it was enlarged and adorned with two handsome towers, surmounted with spires. The first pastor was Rev. J. R. Kookan, succeeded by Revs. George D. Wolfe, J. T. Ermentrout, P. S. Davis, D. Gans, E. O. Forney, Henry M. Keiffer and Rev. J. O. Johnson, the present incumbent. Membership, two hundred and forty-five, and attendance at Sabbath-school, about two hundred and seventy-two.

TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH is a stone edifice erected in 1876 at the corner of Marshall and Cherry Streets. Its first pastor was Rev. Daniel Feete, succeeded by Revs. A. B. Stoner and W. H. Hendrickson, the present incumbent. In 1883 the church was greatly improved. The membership is eighty, with about one hundred and fifty teachers and pupils in the Sabbath-school.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH was erected on De Kalb Street, above Penn, in 1849. Rev. F. G. Miller was its first pastor, succeeded by Revs. McCrow, Schultz and Charles A. Baer. During the charge of the last the church was rebuilt, of stone, and enlarged in 1863, with the addition to its front of a portico with four Ionic columns. The pastors since have been Revs. L. H. Bork and A. J. Weddell. The

membership is about four hundred, and attendance at Sunday-school four hundred and forty. A parsonage was built in the summer of 1884 in the place of the one removed.

ST. PAUL'S GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH was built of brick on Oak Street, below De Kalb, in 1872. The first pastor was Rev. Henry Reiff, succeeded by Revs. Frantz Badenfeldt, Engel, Pracht, Pohle and Gerlach. Its membership is eighty, and teachers and pupils in Sabbath-school one hundred and fifty.

CENTRAL OR SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is located on the north side of Main Street, above Swede. The congregation was organized November 28, 1855, the corner-stone laid August 9, 1856, and the church dedicated in February, 1858. It is a large brick edifice, with a portico in front containing six Corinthian columns, has circular pews and ample rooms in the basement; it cost thirty-five thousand dollars. Its pastors have been Revs. Daniel G. Mallery, Robert Adair, J. T. Ford and William Jenks. Rev. Joseph McAskie has present charge. Membership is two hundred and twenty-five, and teachers and pupils in Sunday-school three hundred.

FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSE is a plain brick building located within a large shady lawn, at the corner of Swede and Jacoby Streets. It was erected in 1852 as an indulged meeting, under care of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting.

THE EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION, OR GERMAN METHODISTS, erected a brick house of worship in 1859 on Cherry Street, above Airy. Its first pastor was Rev. Seneca Breifogle, succeeded by Revs. E. Batz, Thomas Harper, James O. Leih, S. G. Rhoades, R. M. Lichtenwalter, B. F. Bouher, W. T. Black and Francis Leih. Membership, one hundred and sixteen; teachers and pupils in Sunday-school, one hundred.

THE DUNKARDS, OR GERMAN BAPTISTS, possess a small brick meeting-house on Barbadoes Street, above Airy, erected in 1869. No stated or regular worship is held therein.

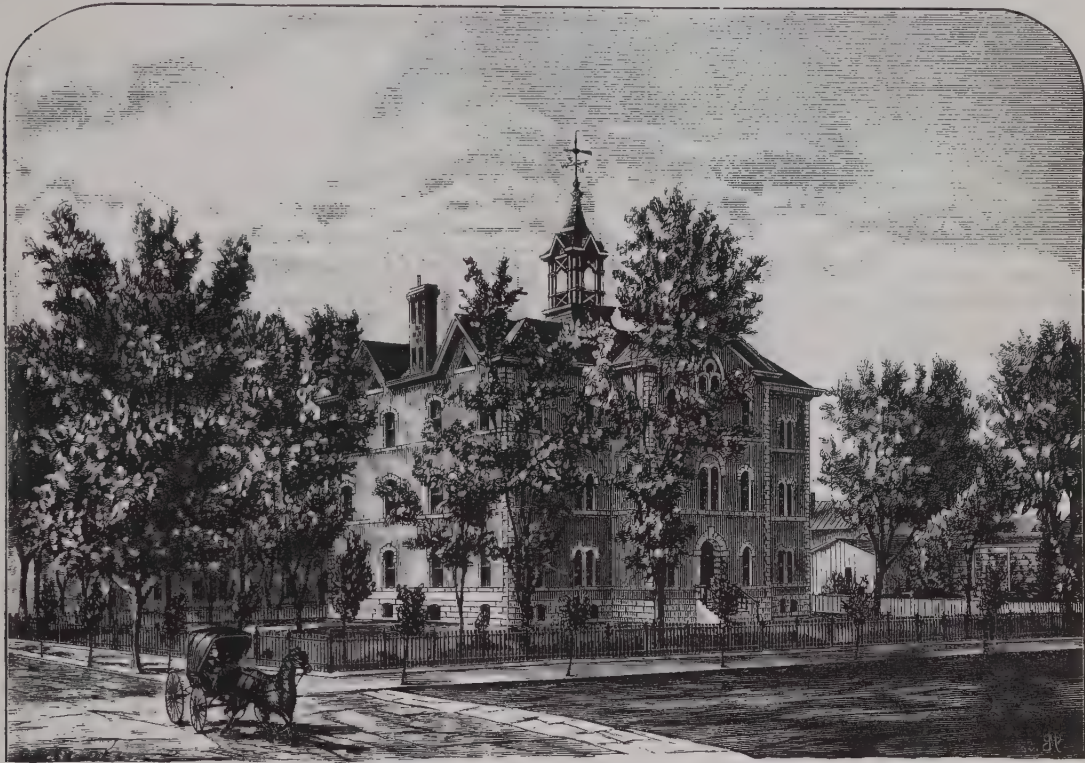
THE COLORED ZION METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, on Chain Street near Lafayette, was erected in 1845. A larger one having been built on Powell Street in 1853, the former one was vacated. Its first pastor was Rev. Thomas Gibbs; the present one in charge is Rev. Amos Wilson. Membership, about one hundred, with an attendance of seventy-five in the Sunday-school.

THE COLORED EBENEZER PROTESTANT METHODIST CHURCH was organized in June, 1849, and a stone building erected in the autumn of 1853, at a cost of eight hundred and seventy-five dollars, at Arch and Basin Streets. In 1872 it was rebuilt of brick and enlarged. Its pastors have been Rev. Samuel N. Amos, Isaiah Taylor and Charles Williams. Membership, fifty-six, and Sunday-School attendance about forty.

Public Schools.—The schools of Norristown, both

public and private, have a high reputation, and are probably not excelled by those of any other borough in the State. Its inhabitants from an early period have bestowed considerable attention upon the matter, and the result has been a continual progress in their condition. Schools, particularly in towns, perform a more important part in the affairs and duties of life than is generally accredited them. By this we mean, more especially, their influence on order and morals. What would be the condition of any town of this size if its schools were closed for one year? In this borough about one-fifth of the whole population attends school; if this number, instead of being there

the number in the borough had increased to twenty public schools, in which were employed two male and eighteen female teachers, attended by two thousand and ninety-one scholars. The schools were kept in three buildings erected expressly for the purpose, and a one-story frame building for colored children. The public schools in 1872 had increased to thirty-one, and in 1875 to thirty-eight, taught by this number of teachers and attended by two thousand four hundred and one scholars. The High School was established in 1870, when A. D. Eisenhower became principal. In 1878, Anne Y. Gilbert (Mrs. Dr. C. Z. Weber) was chosen assistant; upon her resignation,



HIGH SCHOOL, NORRISTOWN.

and preparing for future usefulness, should be let loose in the streets, its character would soon change.

The public schools are forty-four and are taught by this number of teachers. For the year ending June 1, 1884, the whole number of pupils enrolled was two thousand three hundred and thirty and the average daily attendance one thousand six hundred and eighteen. Joseph K. Gotwals is superintendent of the borough schools. Those outside of these limits, but within the county, are in charge of the county superintendent, the positions being independent of each other. The public-school system was accepted July 27, 1835, but did not go in operation until March 2, 1836. The first directors' meeting had been held September 24, 1834. In 1832, strange to say, there were but two primary schools in the place. In 1857

in 1884, Miss Ella Detwiler and Miss Bertha Limebach became assistants.

The public school buildings are now six in number, and can all be considered as comparatively new and of modern construction. The High School building is on De Kalb Street, fronting on Oak, the lot of ground containing several acres. It was erected in 1880, is built of brick, three stories high, with handsome stone facings to all the windows, doors and basement. The furniture and apparatus is of modern and approved construction. It contains accommodations for five hundred and twelve pupils. All the higher branches are taught, including Latin, Greek and German. The principal is A. D. Eisenhower, with ten additional teachers; the grammar department being in three divisions.

Oak Street Public School building was originally erected in 1849, on a large lot fronting on said street. It is built of brick, three stories high, and was enlarged in 1859, and again in 1868, and contains accommodations for one thousand pupils. It is divided into numerous class and recitation-rooms. William J. Wells is principal, assisted by fourteen teachers in five divisions. Chain Street School is located at the corner of Airy and Chain street, in the south-western part of the borough. It is a two-story stone building erected in 1870, with eight school-rooms, and has capacity for four hundred pupils. The lot embraces half a square of ground. Joseph V. Bean is principal, assisted by five teachers in six divisions.

Sandy Street School is located at Walnut and Sandy Streets. It is a two-story brick edifice, originally built in 1851 and enlarged in 1874, and contains accommodations for four hundred and fifty pupils. George H. Coe is principal, assisted by seven teachers in three divisions. Cherry Street School is located at the corner of Penn, is built of brick, three stories high, erected in 1851. It has capacity for one hundred and fifty pupils, and is used as a secondary school, with two teachers. Powell Street School, at the corner of Willow, is a stone building, erected in 1874 for colored pupils, with capacity for accommodating one hundred and twenty scholars, and is now unused.

Cemeteries.—The Montgomery Cemetery Company was organized in September, 1847, and was incorporated April 4, 1848. It contains thirty acres of land, and is located on the Schuylkill, adjoining Norriton township. The first interment made therein was March 16, 1849, and up to April 1, 1859, the number had reached six hundred and fifty-two, but since has greatly increased. Here the dead repose amidst shady lawns, shrubbery and flowers. It possesses a diversified surface, and the ground descends towards the river. Norris City Cemetery is situated outside the borough limits, beside its northern boundary, and is approached by Swede Street. The company was incorporated in November, 1857, and the first interment made the following spring. This tract was previously known as the Rossiter Farm. St. Patrick's Burial-Ground is situated on the south side of Main Street, beyond Stony Creek. A tract was purchased of Levi and Elizabeth Pawling May 14, 1809, as a public burying-ground, at the corner of Swede and Violet Streets. It is known as Potter's Field, contains thirty-three perches, and is under the control of the Borough Council. Respecting its condition, a public meeting was called in June, 1809, probably with a view of having it inclosed.

Public Halls.—The earliest hall in the place of any pretension was that in the Odd Fellows' building, which was erected by a company in 1850, and was three stories high, built of brick. The first story was occupied by stores, the second by the hall, and the third for the purposes of the lodge-rooms. In 1877 it was

sold to Philip Quillman, who placed a mansard roof on its fourth story and vacated the hall. In 1872 a company was formed who erected Music Hall, on the north side of Main Street, above De Kalb. It is a handsome three-story brick structure, faced with marble, fifty feet front and one hundred and forty feet deep, and cost sixty thousand dollars. The first story in front is occupied by the post-office and stores. The second story contains the hall, fitted up for concerts, lectures and exhibition purposes, and has a capacity for seating one thousand persons. It possesses in addition a stage, scene-fixtures and a dressing-room. The third story is finished up and used as a Masonic lodge-room. There are several other halls fitted up for such purposes in the place, as Acker's, Fisher's, Albertson's and Meeh's, and others of less note.

The Norristown Library is kept in the second story of a brick building erected by the association, commenced in October, 1859, into which it was removed in the following April. The building was thirty by forty feet in dimensions, situated on De Kalb Street, above Airy. It is open every week-day, and contains at present about six thousand volumes. It was founded in 1794, and incorporated April 30, 1796, and its charter signed by Thomas Mifflin, Governor. The original members were Henry Pawling, Andrew Porter, John Pugh, Seth Chapman, Dr. Isaac Huddleson, Dr. William Smith, Joseph Potts, Ezekiel Rhoades, Robert Brooke, John E. Allen, James Adams, John Davis and Samuel Maulsby, having been its earliest friends and incorporators. In January, 1801, Andrew Porter, Levi Pawling, John Davis, Robert Kennedy, David Lukens, Isaiah Wells and six others were elected trustees. At this time it contained about seventy members, with an annual payment of one dollar from each. The treasurer reported that there were due one hundred and forty-four dollars, besides a considerable sum for fines, and requested the same to be paid so as to enable the purchase of additional books.

For many years the library was kept in a building upon a site belonging to the Bank of Montgomery County, on Main Street, which was afterwards removed to the corner of De Kalb and Penn Streets. A one-story frame building, fifteen and a half feet square, was erected for it in 1835, where it remained until the completion of the present building. In January, 1825, it contained six hundred and eleven volumes, for which a building that cost \$153.43 had been erected by private subscription on the leased lot. The members at this time were twenty-four. In 1836 the annual meeting was changed from the first Saturday in January to the first Tuesday of the same month. The first catalogue was printed in 1836, containing forty pages. In 1832 the library had increased to eleven hundred volumes, and in 1858 to about two thousand eight hundred. The last catalogue was printed in 1883, containing one hundred pages. The annual payment is now two dollars, the price of

shares five dollars and of life memberships twenty dollars. Miss Irene Hallman is the present librarian.

The Historical Society of Montgomery County was founded February 22, 1881, by a call from fourteen prominent citizens. They have held several meetings and have had papers read before them on historical subjects of local interest and commenced the formation of a library and a collection of manuscripts. It was incorporated in May, 1883.

The officers of the society from the first have been,—President: 1881–85, Theodore W. Bean. Vice-Presidents: 1881–82, Reuben Kriebel, Professor R. T. Hoffecker; 1883, Professor R. T. Hoffecker, Dr. Hiram Corson; 1884–85, Dr. Hiram Corson, Hon. Hiram C. Hoover. Recording Secretary: 1881, J. S. Shrawder, M.D.; 1882–85, F. G. Hobson. Corresponding Secretary: 1881–84, S. M. Corson; 1885, Isaac Chism, Esq. Treasurer: 1881–85, Major William H. Holstein. Librarian: 1881–85, Nathaniel Jacoby. Stenographer: 1881–85, William N. Clift. Trustees: 1884–85, Benjamin P. Wertsner, William McDermott, Hon. William Henry Sutton, Charles F. Corson, Hon. William A. Yeakle, Professor Joseph K. Gotwaltz, Hon. James Detwiler, Mrs. Jacob L. Rex and Mrs. Caleb R. Howell.

The post-office is kept in the first-story front of Music Hall building, on Main Street. It has been fitted up under government authority, the office being now of that rank that the appointment is made by the President of the United States. Robert Iredell, the present incumbent, except a short interval from 1866 to 1868, has held the office continuously since 1861, while his deputy, William Acker, has officiated therein a still longer time. The post-office was established in Norristown before 1799, when John Davis was postmaster. It was the second in the county, the Pottstown office having preceded it near the close of 1793.

The first postmaster of Norristown was John Davis, in 1799; since 1820 the following have served: James Wells, Isaiah W. Davis, Philip Hahn, John Sutlee, Henry G. Hart, Dr. E. L. Acker, Robert Iredell, 1861 to 1866; Henry Quilman, Samuel Brown and Robert Iredell.

An advertisement of the several letters remaining in this office uncalled for in October, 1799, is a curiosity. Several of the names mentioned are stated from their address to reside in Nockamixon, Chester County, Great Valley, Montgomery township, Lower Merion, Trappe, Horsham and Upper Hanover. This, of course, was then owing to the comparatively few post-offices in the country. Indeed, in Pennsylvania, in 1796, there was but thirty-three, and even in the county, as late as 1827, only twenty. John Coates was postmaster in 1816.

Early History.—By reference to the history of Norriton township it will be seen that the land on which Norristown is situated was part of the tract owned by Isaac Norris. The greater part within the present borough came in possession of his son, Charles

Norris, who erected a mill¹ by the side of the Schuylkill, a few yards above the present dam, and made other valuable improvements. After his death, Mary, his wife, sold, September 17, 1771, the mill and five hundred and forty-three acres on the river-side to John Bull, of Limerick township, for the sum of four thousand six hundred pounds, which, in our present currency, would be twelve thousand two hundred and sixty-five dollars. Included in said purchase was Barbadoes Island, which is stated in the conveyance to contain eighty-eight acres. Nicholas Scull, in his map of the province, published in 1759, mentions an inn called the "Norrington House," situated on the southeast side of where the Ridge road or Main Street now crosses Stony Creek. This, no doubt, was the first site of the earliest settlement anywhere within the present limits of the borough, and which subsequent researches seem to confirm.

As both the township of Norriton and Norristown received their names from Isaac Norris, of Philadelphia, some account of him in this connection may not be amiss. He was a native of England, where he was born about the year 1671. With his father he went to Jamaica in 1678, where he established himself as a merchant, and after a residence there of fourteen years arrived in Philadelphia, where he commenced a successful business career. During his life he was a leading member of the Society of Friends. With William Trent, in 1704, he purchased all of what was called Norriton township, and in 1712 became its sole owner. He was elected to the Assembly in 1700, and was continued in the same for many years. He resided chiefly at Fair Hill, his country-seat, which was in the present vicinity of Broad Street, below Monument Cemetery. He was married, March 7, 1694, to Mary, the youngest daughter of Governor Thomas Lloyd. He was very active and influential in civil and religious matters. In 1715 he became one of the justices of the Philadelphia County Courts, a member of the Governor's Council and was, at the time of his death, chief justice of the province. He died suddenly in the beginning of June, 1735, of an apoplectic fit, while attending Germantown Meeting. At the time of his decease, he was about sixty-four years of age. His will is dated January 17, 1731, and appointed Mary, his wife, and his sons Isaac, Charles and Samuel, jointly, his executors. His eldest son, Isaac, one of the aforesaid executors, was also distinguished as a merchant and for his services in public life. He was long an alderman of the city, and for twenty years Speaker of the Assembly. He died July 13, 1766, aged sixty-five years. William Trent, alluded to, was also an early merchant of Philadelphia, speaker of the Assembly and one of the judges of the Supreme Court from

¹ Since the aforesaid was written, we have learned from the report of the road survey from Swedes' Ford to Gwynedd Meeting-house, in March, 1738, of a mention made in this vicinity of "Norris' Mills." The question arises,—were those mills beside the Schuylkill or on Stony Creek? Most likely on the latter stream.

1705 to 1716. He shortly after removed to where Trenton, N. J., now is, where he commenced the first settlement, by the erection of several mills, in 1719. He died there in 1724, chief justice of the province, and after him Trenton was called.

An act having been passed by the Assembly, February 26, 1773, for "clearing, scouring and making the river Schuylkill navigable, and for putting in execution all and every other the purposes in the said act mentioned," the commissioners appointed to carry out the aforesaid state that they

"Did agree with Charles Norris, Esq., late deceased, that he should be permitted and suffered from time to time, as occasion shall require, to repair, keep up and maintain a certain mill-dam running across the eastern channel of the said river, from the main eastern shore thereof to Barbadoes Island, which, before the date of the said agreement, had been made and erected by the said Charles Norris, for the use of his mill, on condition that he should and would build, erect and carry out, from the upper end of the said island, a dam, or wall, of at least twenty perches in length, and inclining in some degree to the eastern side of the said river, and of such height as should be above the waters at all times, other than in freshes, so as to direct the waters into the western channel, and also should and would, in the building of the said wall or dam, make use of the stones lying in the said western channel. And whereas, since the agreement aforesaid, the administrators of the said Charles Norris did convey and make over the said mill, with the appurtenances, to John Bull, Esq. Be it therefore enacted, that the said John Bull, his heirs or assigns, shall, and he or they are hereby enjoined and required within the space of eight months from and after passing this act, to build the said dam or wall as mentioned, and in case he shall refuse or neglect it, then the commissioners to prostrate or remove the said mill-dam, which, should they be compelled to do, then the said John Bull to have a reasonable compensation therefore and forever thereafter to keep open the said eastern channel of the said river, free and clear from all manner of impediment and obstructions to the navigation thereof."

This important statement goes to show under what circumstances the first mill was erected here, and in what way its motive-power was secured from the river. It may have been possible that on the breast of this dam at certain times the island may have been reached by persons crossing on foot; a matter that occasioned some speculation when it became somewhat of a resort for racing, bathing and military trainings.

Only two days after the defeat of Washington at Brandywine he dispatched General Armstrong, with a portion of the militia, along the Schuylkill to throw up redoubts at the different fords which were to be occasionally occupied, that in case the British should attempt to cross they might be opposed. At that time the principal crossing-place was at Swedes' Ford, and on this account it was expected that they might pass there, and for this reason, under the direction of Chevalier Du Portail, an engineer, formerly in the French army, Armstrong's men threw up entrenchments and breast-works opposite that place, and now in the borough, and it is said that they were scarcely completed before the British made their appearance on the other side, but in consequence changed their line of march towards Valley Forge. Remains of these works were still visible forty years ago. While Washington was near Pottsgrove the enemy crossed the Schuylkill at Fatland Ford, five and a half miles above Norristown, on the night of September 22, 1777, and proceeded

leisurely on their march to the city. On the 23d a portion of their army was overnight in or near the present borough, on which occasion they set fire and burned down nearly all the buildings in the place. So great was the damage done that on a valuation being made, the State allowed to Colonel Bull for his loss £2080, to the University £1000, to Hannah Thompson £807 and William Dewees £329,—the whole equivalent to \$11,240 of our present currency. The aforesaid may be depended on as accurate, being derived from official manuscripts on the subject. The result may be arrived at from an advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Packet* of October 27, 1778, and bearing the Rev. Dr. Smith's name,—

"To be let for a term of years, that valuable plantation at Norriton, on Schuylkill, lately occupied by Colonel Bull. Such persons as desire to lease the same are requested to make their propositions to the subscriber, at the College, as soon as possible, as the farm and meadows now suffer for the want of a tenant."

Colonel Bull continued to reside here from 1771, making extensive improvements, and most probably until the destruction of his property. He was assessed in the spring of 1776 for holding in Norriton five hundred acres, two negroes, two bound servants, five horses and seven cows. In 1768 he had been appointed one of the justices of the Court of Quarter Sessions for Philadelphia County, which office he continued to hold until the Revolution. He had been in the service as a captain in the French and Indian war, and was commissioned, November 25, 1775, a colonel of the First Pennsylvania Battalion of eight companies, afterwards De Haas' regiment, which position he resigned January 20, 1776. He was appointed adjutant-general of Pennsylvania June 17, 1777, and when General James Irvine was taken prisoner, near Chestnut Hill, was appointed, in December of that year, to the command of the Second Brigade of Pennsylvania Militia. In 1780 he was appointed to purchase horses in the county for the use of the army. In January, 1775, he was one of the county members that met in provincial convention to prohibit the importation of slaves. He, with three others represented the county in the convention that framed the Constitution of the State, which was adopted September 28, 1776. We see by these several positions that he had become an active partisan in the war, and it was for this reason and his carrying on the manufacture of powder that the British were induced to burn his property here September 23, 1777, while on their march to take possession of the city. He was continued by the Assembly, August 31, 1778, as one of the justices of the County Courts. Colonel Bull sold all his real estate here, excepting about fifty-five acres, to Rev. Dr. William Smith, of the city of Philadelphia, October 30, 1776, for the use of the University of Pennsylvania, of which he was provost, for six thousand pounds. The tract is mentioned as containing a grist-mill, saw-mill, powder-mill and other buildings. The deed for the same was not given until the following November 2d. These were the buildings

that the British in the following year destroyed Benjamin Rittenhouse, brother of the celebrated philosopher, who was commissioned by Governor Mifflin, in 1791, one of the associate judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Montgomery County, was married to a daughter of Colonel Bull. William Bull, who was assessed in Norriton in 1776 for holding three hundred acres and two negroes, was probably a brother of the aforesaid. He had purchased a farm here of Henry Conard in 1770.

While the British army was destroying property in this neighborhood, we learn from the Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg's journal that the American light cavalry captured five English soldiers, who at this time, we presume, were out marauding, and brought them through the Trappe on their way to the American army. When Washington broke up his camp at White-marsh, and proceeded with the army to Valley Forge, for winter-quarters, it was on the banks of the river at this borough that they encamped for about two days, suffering severely at this time, Colonel John Laurens states, for the want of provisions. On the afternoon of December 13th they crossed at the Swedes' Ford by making a bridge of wagons backed to each other, on which were laid fence-rails as a substitute for plank, and which formed very unstable footing. This novel mode of crossing was witnessed by the late Mathias Holstein, then a boy, accompanied by his father, which fact has since been corroborated by the letters and journals of several who were then present.

From a County-Seat to a Borough.—At that time, where is now the large and populous borough of Norristown, the land chiefly belonged to the trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, to whom it had been transferred by the Rev. Dr. Smith, who had been the provost of the same. His son, William Moore Smith, became agent for the trustees of this institution, and under certain reservations, final owner, and thus had it laid out as the town of "Norris" into streets and lots. The latter were divided into a width of fifty feet front, but of different depths. Those most advantageously situated brought as high as four dollars per foot, while others less desirable were sold as low as \$1.40. There were in all at this time (1785) sixty-four lots, bounded on the north by Airy Street, east by Green Alley, south by Lafayette and west by Cherry Street. This may be considered the original size of the town. In the deeds to the several lot-holders mention is made that they are conveyed by the "trustees of the University of Pennsylvania," and are situated "in the town of Norris." A lot on Egypt Street was sold to Henry Roosen, February 28, 1785, for seventy-seven pounds and the singular feudal reservation of "an acorn annually to be paid to them and their successors." Abraham Landis purchased a lot in that year for eight pounds, on De Kalb Street, and David Lloyd one for twenty-five pounds, fronting on De Kalb and Swede Streets, in which this tribute is also a

condition. A copy of the original town draft may be seen in Deed Book No. 2, page 465, at the recorder's office, in which the "Mansion House" is described as being on the north side of Main or Egypt Street, near the present Barbadoes. Egypt Street is mentioned therein as eighty feet wide, De Kalb sixty-six, Swede sixty-six, and Penn Street extending eastwards from the court-house lot. The latter is mentioned as being three hundred and forty-four by one hundred and forty feet in extent, and that "the Public Square to remain open for ever" towards Egypt or Main Street.

As the court-house and jail were not built for several years after the formation of the county, the courts had to be held wherever they could get the most suitable accommodations. The first court was held at the public-house of John Shannon, December 28, 1784. Frederick A. Muhlenberg, James Morris, Henry Scheetz and William Dean were the justices, the first being president. To show the spirit of the times, we learn from the records of the court that one person, for committing two larcenies, was sentenced, September 28, 1785, to receive on his bare back fifteen lashes, well laid on, and on the following October 8th the same number to be repeated for the second offense. "Negro William" was sentenced, at the same time, to receive nineteen lashes.

The ground upon which the court-house stands, with much the greater portion of the present public square, was virtually presented to the county by the trustees of the University, expressly for the public buildings. It was conveyed through the commissioners in accordance with the provisions mentioned in the act of Assembly. The consideration therefor, was five shillings, and the transfer was made in 1785. The deed thus describes the boundaries:

"Beginning at the northwest corner of Airy and Swede Streets, thence along the west side of Swede, south 28 degrees, west 344 feet to a corner, thence along the open square, south 62 degrees, east 140 feet to a corner lot marked No. 1; thence by a 40 feet court and lot No. 30, north 28 degrees, east 344 feet to Airy Street, thence along said street north 62 degrees west to the place of beginning."

It will be observed no mention is made of the present Penn Street; probably the court referred to was a portion of the same that may at this time have been only partly opened.

The court-house and jail were both commenced in 1787, and were built of stone. The dimensions of the former were seventy by forty feet, two stories high, and surmounted by a cupola and bell. It stood upon the south side of Penn Street, near the corner of Swede, with its front towards Main Street. The stairs were placed on the outside to reach the second story, similar to those of the old court-house in Philadelphia, which was common at this period, even with churches and private houses when two stories high. The prison stood upon the site of the present court-house and was a two-story rough-cast building. In 1801 four hundred and twenty-one dollars were paid for fuel used in it, which the auditors said would have to be in the future considerably reduced or the amount

would not be allowed, while the expenses for boarding the prisoners was one hundred and ninety-seven dollars. The following year the fuel charge was one hundred and sixty-four dollars. The cost to the county for erecting these buildings was £4774 11s. 9d. Of this amount, £1828 19s. was received from Philadelphia County, as the share coming to Montgomery from the proceeds of the sale of the old prison there, according to the act of Assembly in establishing the county. The building containing the county offices was not erected till 1791. Several years after it was enlarged to fifty by thirty-six feet. Colonel Thomas Craig, an officer of the Revolution, was appointed in 1784 associate judge, prothonotary, clerk of the courts, and the following year recorder, all of which offices he actually held until 1799.

General Francis Swayne, a resident of the Trappe and son-in-law of the Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg, while sheriff of the county, on the 12th of April, 1788, executed John Brown, who had been sentenced to death for burglary, and who, it appears, was an old offender. He was hanged in the rear of the jail on Airy Street. This affair for some time after was the occasion of considerable controversy, if not excitement, between the sheriff and several citizens of the town. It originated chiefly through the execution having been performed on the highway, and in the most public manner. The sheriff, on the other hand, defended himself on the ground that he could not get the permission of any land-owners in or near the place to permit him, as an officer, to fulfil the due performance of that which was required of him by law.

Norristown, in 1790, contained a court-house, jail, three or four inns, eight or nine houses, a mill and a school-house,—in all about eighteen buildings. An intelligent lady of nearly eighty years, sometime since deceased, who was raised in the place, furnished the writer with the following reminiscences in 1858: That the town in 1793 contained three or four taverns,—one was the "General Washington," kept by Alexander Moore; the "Rising Sun," kept by Jesse Roberts; the "Eagle," by a person by the name of Rudolph; that there were two stores, one kept by John Young, and not a house within the present borough limits south and south-east of Main and De Kalb Streets. She remembered when shad, herring and rockfish were caught here in abundance and canoes and flats navigated the river. On one occasion she went with her father to Philadelphia in a canoe and was considerably frightened in going through the falls above Manayunk. Scott, in his "United States Gazetteer of 1795," speaks of Norristown as then containing about twenty houses, besides the county buildings. An aged gentleman, now for some time deceased, furnished the writer in 1854 with his recollections of the place in 1803. He says it then contained about fifty houses and that most of them were but one story high and built of frame or logs. Besides these were a court-house, jail, three taverns, one store and a small school-house, two

or three lawyers and one doctor. Back of Airy Street, in the vicinity of the present prison, was the old Jail Lane, which was a favorite place for horse-racing and playing long bullets. In the spring and fall, when the condition of the roads became impassable, the people hauled tan from the old tan-yard carried on by Philip Markley before 1790, and made walks of it before their doors. Swede Street at this time was the only road that extended to the river, and there was then a fine road along its banks from the mouth of Stony Creek to Swedes' Ford, well shaded by button-wood and beech-trees.

John Markley, an enterprising citizen of the place, in the fall of 1798, was elected sheriff of the county, to which position he was elected for three consecutive years. Having purchased all the real estate here that had formerly belonged to the university, he was induced to offer it for sale in an advertisement of December, 1801:

"All the estate called Norristown Mill and Farm, lately the property of Wm. Moore Smith, Esq., adjoining the town of Norris, and bounding on the river Schuylkill, containing 540 acres, including Barbadoes Island. It is the intention of the subscriber to divide this estate into lots and small farms. To the farm-lots will be added a sufficiency of woodlands and commodious dwelling-houses. Also the merchant mill, saw-mill, with ten acres of land. The mills are pleasantly situated on and worked by the river Schuylkill, within a few poles of the road leading from Philadelphia to Reading, and are in complete repair. There are on the premises two other mill-seats on streams of water sufficiently strong for any kind of power, which will be sold separate, with a sufficient security of the water-right. The richness of the soil, the pleasantness of the situation and the present flourishing prospects of the village renders the purchase of this property an object worthy the attention of the farmer, the mechanic or the gentleman of leisure."

An attack on a national vessel, in our own waters in time of peace, made an unusual excitement throughout the country which even extended to Norristown, where a call was issued against "British tyranny and oppression," and a public meeting held at the court-house, July 22, 1807, "for the purpose of expressing their sense of the late unwarrantable and dastardly outrage committed by one of the British ships of war on the American frigate, "Chesapeake." General Francis Swaine was appointed president and Samuel Patterson secretary. Levi Pawling, William Henderson, Israel Bringhurst, George Weaver, Mathias Holstein, John Markley and James Winnard reported seven resolutions, wherein they state

"That the outrage committed by the British ship-of-war 'Leopard' on the American frigate 'Chesapeake,' and the murder of our seamen, whether it be considered as an act of the British government, or of individuals who committed it, requires rigid retribution or honorable reparation. That we will, at the hazard of our lives and properties, support the proclamation of the President of the United States, and any other measures that may be adopted by the constituted authorities to obtain redress from the British government for the reparation of our national honor and insulted sovereignty. At this crisis it is the duty of every citizen who is not conscientiously scrupulous against bearing arms to arm in defense of his injured country, and to prepare for the event of a war."

As a result, notice was given by John Richards, bridge inspector of New Hanover township, to the enrolled persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, and not exempted from military duty, that

an election of the First Brigade, Second Division of Pennsylvania Militia, would be held, July 31, 1807, for one brigadier-general, one brigade inspector, one lieutenant-colonel for each regiment and one major for each battalion in the county; for the Thirty-sixth Regiment, commanded by Colonel Samuel Henderson, at the house of Frederick Dull, Hickorytown; for the Fifty-first Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel John Wentz, at Frederick Conrad's, Esq., in Worcester; for the Fifty-sixth Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Christian Snyder, at Jesse Kirk's, in Horsham; for the Eighty-sixth Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Isaac Davis, at Henry Krebs', in New Hanover; the commanding officers to appoint suitable persons to conduct the election and make returns thereof according to law; the company officers to appoint the day and place of meeting for the election of the officers of companies.

A draft of upwards of six hundred men having been ordered as Montgomery County's quota, who were required to report at Norristown and to there enter the service, at eleven o'clock on December 16th, of that year, the line was formed in a field adjacent to the town to carry out the aforesaid object. The right was flanked by Captain Pawling's dragoons, Captain Shives' artillery, Captain Bucher's rifle company and Captain Gross' infantry; the left by Captain Weber's dragoons, and Captains Holgate's, Weist's Mintzner's and Barn's infantry; the sixteen companies of drafted militia being placed in the centre. The whole was placed under the command of Colonel Reed, to whom was allotted the command of the detachment. The cavalry who were all uniformed and mounted, had considerably exceeded the quota, and all the volunteer corps were neatly equipped, and the militia generally armed. Major-General Swaine and Brigadier-General Scheetz, attended by their aids, and Major Norny, the brigade inspector, reviewed the line and received a general salute. The whole marched in regular order through the town, and then returned to the former ground, where the volunteers were dismissed. On this occasion several of the companies had come a distance of twenty-five miles.

Among the early and enterprising improvers of Norristown, can be mentioned Michael Broadt, a name we believe, that has since been changed to Broades. Concerning his history at this writing we possess little beyond what is fragmentary. He constructed a drying-house and powder-mill in Norristown about 1799, and while conducting a series of experiments with his newly-made powder, nine hundred pounds of it became ignited and blew up one of the buildings, injuring one of his employes, while he fortunately escaped injury. He was a well-educated German and took an interest in educational matters, being one of the founders of the academy, and was elected in 1803 one of its first trustees. This same year he secured the services of Charles Fortman, a graduate of one of the German universities, to give instruction in the Eng-

lish, German, French and Latin languages, and also on the piano-forte, on the latter, no doubt, the first teacher in the county. At this date he also advertises building lots for sale. It is probable, that in addition to carrying on several manufactories he also kept a public-house, for on December 6, 1806, he advertises "all that noted old Tavern Stand, known by the sign of the 'New Moon' and thirty acres of land, with stabling for twenty-horses, oil-mill, plaster-of-Paris-mill, powder-mill and carding-machine." On September 20th of this year his daughter Sarah was married to William Chain, also of Norristown. In June, 1807, he informs the public "that his machinery for picking and rolling wool is in complete order. Persons living at a distance are required to bring in their own wool soon in order that they may have it done while they wait for it to take back with them." Whether he died about this time we are unable to state, but know that he was succeeded in the spring of 1810 by his son, Daniel Broadt, who, in the summer of 1811, advertises that after several years' experience and instruction under his father, he was prepared to pick and card either cotton or wool in quantities of from twenty or thirty pounds in two or three hours.

Application was made by a number of the citizens of Norristown to have it incorporated with the rights and privileges of a borough. The act was passed March 31, 1812, and its bounds set forth:—

Beginning at the river Schuylkill, at the corner of Levi Pawling and Mathew Chain's land; thence along the line of Mathew Chain and Miles Abbet's land, on the one side, and the land of Levi Pawling, Philip Hahn, Jr., Robert Hamel, George Righter and John Miller, on the other side, to a corner of said Miller and Joseph Crawford's lands; thence on the line of the said Crawford and William Deal's land, and on the one side, and John Miller, Thomas Ross, John Markley, Thomas Stroud, William Boyd and Simon Kesey's on the other side, to the Plymouth township line; thence along the said line to the river Schuylkill; thence up the several courses thereof to the place of beginning."

The act of incorporation required that the burgess, Town Council and high constable be elected annually. Section Fourth stated "That if any persons duly elected as burgess or a member of the Town Council or constable, and having received notice thereof as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to take upon himself the execution of the office to which he shall have been elected, every person so refusing or neglecting shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding twenty dollars."

As laid out at this time, the borough was wholly taken from Norriton township, and contained an area of about five hundred and twenty acres, being nearly a mile square. It extended on the river from the mouth of Stony Creek to the Plymouth line, somewhat over a mile. The population probably did not exceed five hundred, as by the census of 1820 we know it only contained eight hundred and twenty-seven inhabitants, showing an unusually slow growth, after having been laid out as a town and a county-seat twenty-seven years, and withal possessing such unusual advantages to help to promote its prosperity. It was the first borough incorporated in the county, and at

this time Saw-Mill Run divided it into nearly two equal portions. The first election under its charter was held on Friday, May 1, 1812, when Francis Swaine was elected burgess; Mathias Holstein, John Coates, David Thomas, Robert Hamill, James Winnard, Lewis Shrack, Philip Hahn, Jr., Town Council; and Wendle Fisher, high constable.

Early Roads and Streets.—The road from North Wales or Gwynedd Meeting-house to Swedes' Ford was confirmed in March, 1738, and at September Sessions, 1756, was ordered to be opened thirty-two feet wide, most probably the earliest highway within the present limits of the borough. We know by William Scull's map of 1770 that the Egypt or Ridge road had then been laid out for several years, for it is denoted thereon as leading to Friends' Meeting-house in Providence. A petition was sent to the Court of Quarter Sessions "for a public road from the New Reading or Egypt road to John Bull's mill, and from thence across the river Schuylkill at or near the lower end of Barbadoes Island, and from thence to the most convenient public road to the Swedes' Ford." This road was laid out April 25, 1774, by Benjamin Jacobs, Thomas Rees, John Howell, John Murray, Benjamin Rittenhouse and Henry Pawling. The court confirmed the same in June, 1774, and it was ordered to be thirty-three feet wide. We ascertain from the aforesaid that the "new Reading or Egypt road" could not have been so long opened, or it would not have borne that name, and that "Crawford's Meadows" were then within the present limits of the borough, most probably a short distance above the mouth of the present Saw-Mill Run.

Egypt road is said to have received this singular name from its going to the "Fatlands," a fertile section of country lying on the Schuylkill, below or south of the Perkiomen. Of the eleven commissioners appointed to sell stock for making this road a turnpike in May, 1811, Francis Swaine, John Markley and Levi Pawling resided in the borough; the former was elected president of the company January 6, 1812. The bed of the road was to be laid with stone, twenty-four feet wide, twelve inches deep, and to have good summer roads wherever practicable. It was finished in 1816 and cost seven thousand dollars per mile. This was a great improvement in its day, and afforded a good road to the city the whole year round. In the laying-out of the town, in 1785, the Egypt road formed the basis by which all the other streets were to be regulated,—namely, by being either parallel with or at right angles to the same. Mention is made in 1830 that "the streets of the town have lately been leveled and graded and some of them paved with bricks and flags."

An act of Assembly was passed March 8, 1834, appointing Alan W. Corson, Evan Jones, Henry Scheetz and George Richards commissioners, "with full power to alter, vacate, widen and extend the streets, and lay out such additional streets as may be

necessary." They met on the 20th of May and appointed Mr. Gill as their surveyor and engineer. Owing to the ungraded condition of the streets and their irregular widths, this was a delicate duty to perform with the several holders of the lands and tenements, but when properly carried out must have greatly tended to beautify and improve the place, of which the benefit conferred thereby has since become so apparent. In 1803 Swede Street was the only highway, excepting the Swedes' Ford road, over half a mile below, that also led to the Schuylkill. Thomas B. Hahn, in recollections of Norristown in 1816, mentions "the big teams and great wagons that made the fire fly coming down Chain's Hill," west of Stony Creek. In 1867 Swede Street was turnpiked beyond the borough limits on to Centre Square.

Early Inns.—It is very probable that among the first houses erected within the present limits of the borough may have been public-houses for the accommodation of travelers. In 1758, Nicholas Scull mentions the Norrington House on his map as being on the east side of Stony Creek, where Main Street now crosses that stream. Archibald Thompson, Matthew Henderson and John Elliot, in 1766, were recommended to the court as proper persons for license, in Norriton township. In 1776 we find the former called an inn-holder and assessed for eighty acres of land. It is probable that he was the husband of Hannah Thompson, who kept the inn here in 1784, which was at or near the site of the Norrington House. Mr. Thompson was a colonel in the Revolutionary army, and died November 1, 1779, at the early age of thirty-nine years, and was buried in Norriton churchyard. For his patriotism his property here also was destroyed in the general conflagration by the British in September, 1777, for which Hannah Thompson was allowed by the State eight hundred and seven pounds damages.

Six inns licensed in the township in 1786, were kept by Hannah Thompson, John Shannon, John Wentz, George Gilbert, Josiah Wood and Abraham Woolford. In 1790 three inns were kept here, whose signs were "General Washington," "Eagle" and "Rising Sun." In 1801, George Pflieger kept the "Golden Swan" then owned by Andrew Swenk, and the "Plough," lately kept by Jeremiah Wills deceased, that had stabling for forty horses. Lewis Shrack kept an inn nearest to the court-house, in 1803, which was owned by Seth Chapman. Michael Broadt kept the "New Moon" in 1804, to which stabling was attached sufficient for fifty horses, the house being built of stone, forty-five by thirty-two feet, with four rooms on each floor. This was the present "Pennsylvania Farmer" stand, on Main Street, below Stony Creek. Elisha Evans kept a public-house in 1802, where a traveling showman the following year announced to exhibit "a male bison from Louisiana, that resembles the ox, the bear and the jackass." Benjamin Rambo advertised, in 1810, that, "noted tavern-stand, sign of the 'Buck,' the nearest inn to the court-house, on the

road to Correll's Ferry, a large two-story stone house," which was then kept by him. This stand may have been the present Rambo House.

The "Rising Sun" tavern in 1812 is mentioned as containing stabling and sheds one hundred feet in length. Morris Jones gives notice, in July, 1813, that he kept the "Norristown Hotel, corner of Egypt or Main and De Kalb Streets," and that "a constant supply of newspapers will be kept for the use of the house." This is interesting for giving an early mention of "hotel," which it would appear was now about being introduced as more pretentious than inn or tavern. It was a two-story stone house, forty by thirty-seven feet, with an adjoining kitchen. The stable was also of stone, fifty by twenty-seven feet, with sheds and outbuildings. This property was built by General Isaiah Wells about 1800, and kept by him until his election as sheriff, when he moved to the jail. It was long known as the most noted stage-house in Norristown. Mrs. Webb advertised, in the summer of 1816, that she had taken the Washington House. At this date, according to David Sower, Jr.'s enumeration, the place contained five public-houses. Mrs. E. Rudd announced in 1834 keeping the White Horse Hotel, with a livery stable attached, where are "constantly on hand for hire, horses, sulkeys, dearborn waggons and close body carriages." Isaac Pritner at that date kept "the Rising Sun Tavern, on Egypt Street, opposite the Court-House." The Norristown Hotel was then kept by Levi Roberts, and was offered at public sale by the assignees of Isaiah Wells.

The tavern property of John Brauch in 1829 was advertised as being a three-story stone building, with five rooms on a floor, with ice-house, stabling and twenty acres of land attached. In 1831 the place was mentioned as containing eight public-houses; the most noted as stage-houses were kept by Jesse Roberts, Mr. Paxson and Mrs. Ann Webb. The latter we know was in the business in 1824. What is now known as the Farmers' and Mechanics' Hotel, on the north side of Main Street, east of Stony Creek, was formerly long kept by Abraham Eschbach. About 1828, Richard Richison kept it, when a number of cannon-balls were discovered in the back yard, that no doubt had been left there in the Revolution. It was at this place that the mansion-house of Colonel Bull stood, which he occupied from 1772 until near the close of 1776. There is a tradition that the Washington House kept by David Heebner in 1858 received its name in consequence of Washington having stayed over night there in October, 1794, while on his journey to Carlisle during the Whiskey Insurrection, and that it was then also used as the headquarters of Governor Mifflin.

In 1837 the public-houses had increased to nine. The "Washington" was kept by Abraham Markley, the "Rising Sun" by Samuel Sharpless, the "Eagle" by Henry Kerr, the Norristown Hotel by Jacob Spang, and the "Pennsylvania Farmer" by Daniel Emery.

As indicative of the changes going on, we may mention that as public-houses the Washington House, the Rising Sun and Norristown Hotel have for some time ceased to exist. The "Eagle" is the present Rambo House, since greatly enlarged.

Early Stage Lines.—In close connection with the history of inns comes the subject of travel in public stage lines. No doubt the first passing through the place was established by William Coleman in 1788, and on which he drove for twenty-seven consecutive years. It started from the "White Swan," in Race Street, every Wednesday morning at seven o'clock, and passed through Pottsgrove to Reading, making weekly trips. In 1804, having received the contract for carrying the mail, he made two trips weekly. A stage also passed through Norristown in 1802 for Pottsgrove, starting from "Hay's Inn," Philadelphia, every Wednesday at sunrise, and must have been an additional line. We possess no earlier knowledge of a stage terminating its journey at Norristown until in August, 1808, when Hezekiah Jeffries established one, starting from Jesse Roberts' inn, sign of the "Rising Sun," every Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at six o'clock, returning on the intervening days at two o'clock P.M., from the "White Horse," kept by John Haines, on Fourth Street, below Race. The fare through was one dollar.

In the beginning of 1812, Daniel Woodruff became the proprietor of the "Norristown Coachee," and changed it the following year into a daily line. Lewis Shrack became the owner in 1824, starting from John Brauch's tavern, and returning from Robert Evans' inn, Race Street. Henry Styer and Levi Roberts, in the fall of 1827, established a daily line to the city, making the distance through in three and a half hours. This in 1829 became the daily mail line, and was then owned by John Crawford & Co., with the fare reduced to seventy-five cents. The packet-boat, "Comet, of Norristown," in the spring of 1829, commenced five trips weekly to the city with passengers, but was originally started from Reading on the completion of the canal and navigation in 1825. In 1830 the travel had increased so that there was thirteen stages passing through the place, carrying daily from fifty to one hundred passengers. From the 1st to the 30th of April, inclusive, the number of stage passengers who stopped at Mr. Robert's hotel was 1194, at Mrs. Webb's, 946, and at Mr. Paxson's, 636, making a total of 2776 for the month. This travel must have added considerably to the business of the inns.

Thomas B. Hahn, in his "Reminiscences of Norristown about 1816," thus humorously describes one of its stages,—

"There were few such public conveyances, but among the few was a line of stages between Norristown and Philadelphia, and I remember well how they looked. On the side of the vehicle, which resembled a Mississippi flat-boat, was inscribed in large letters the name of the proprietor. It left every morning for the city at 7 o'clock, and its departure and arrival were great events. It was open in front and drawn by four horses, and that important character, the driver, was furnished with a

long tin horn, and also sometimes with another kind of a horn, that would occasion him to blow an extra and sufficient blast that it might be known that the great mail stage was about to leave 'for town.' "

Of course, with the introduction of railroads the business commenced to decline, and, in consequence, no longer assume the importance of the past; yet, as an adjunct to travel, it deserves honorable notice from what was thus accomplished when no readier or better facilities for more expeditious conveyance existed.

Early Manufactories.—From its very beginning, through the favorable circumstances of its situation, Norristown became a manufacturing place, which has developed and kept pace with its growth. Charles Norris had built a grist-mill here, several years before 1771, propelled by the Schuylkill, by means of a dam erected from the northern shore to Barbadoes Island. In the latter year it came into the possession of Colonel Bull, who made additional improvements, so that, on the sale thereof to Rev. William Smith, in October, 1776, it was stated to embrace a grist-mill, powder-mill and other buildings, which were all burned by the British. This property came in possession of John Markley, in 1801, who mentions it as possessing a merchant flour-mill and saw-mill, besides two excellent mill-seats. James Shannon was assessed in 1776 on a saw-mill in Norriton township; and in 1785, two grist-mills, four saw-mills and a tannery are mentioned. The latter stood on the river's bank, opposite Swedes Ford, and in 1804 was owned by John Markley, who had inherited it, with forty-seven acres of land, from his father in 1800.

Michael Broadt had a powder-mill in operation in 1800, and in 1805 an oil-mill twenty-five by thirty feet, plaster-mill and a carding-machine. The latter came into the possession of his son, Daniel Broadt, in 1810, who had additional machinery erected to pick and roll wool and cotton. A writer of the *Herald* stated in 1853 "that fifty years previously almost every house in Norristown contained a large and small spinning-wheel, and that the ladies dressed in linsey-woolsey and the boys ran about barefooted." At that time, Henry Freedley carried on quite successfully, in the rear of the present Montgomery House, a pottery and the manufacture of earthenware, in which he was succeeded by Enos Jacoby. Jonathan Taylor advertised, in March, 1807, at private sale his mills on Stony Creek, the grist-mill being four stories high, twenty-one by thirty-five feet in dimensions, a saw-mill and a plaster-mill built in 1801. This property, in the fall of that year, was purchased by David Shoemaker, of Whitmarsh.

Mathias Koplin, from Providence township, carried on the grist and saw-mill on the Schuylkill that had formerly belonged to John Markley, afterwards conducted by James Bolton and Levi Pawling. Mathias Holstein became the proprietor of the merchant flour-mill at the foot of Mill Street about 1812, and had here in operation in 1814 a machine to grind corn on the cob. In 1829 he stated his mill able to manu-

facture three hundred barrels of flour per week. David Sower, Jr., in his enumeration of Norristown in 1816, stated that there was then in operation two merchant mills, one woolen-factory, one pottery, one tannery and two hat-factories. Philip Hahn, Sr., in the spring of 1818, had in operation a fulling-mill on Stony Creek. In 1826, Samuel R. Wood carried on the manufacture of white lead, making from five to six tons per week. In that year he also erected an extensive mill for sawing marble.

The manufacturing establishments of Norristown for 1830 were reported to comprise two saw-mills, four merchant grist-mills, one oil-mill, one brick-yard, one lime-kiln, one hatter and one tanner. A marble saw-mill with one hundred and seventy-four saws, had the capacity of sawing one thousand superficial feet per week. The cotton-mill of Bernard McCredy, the building of which was commenced in the spring of 1826, at the foot of Swede Street, one hundred and fifty by forty-eight feet, and five stories high, containing near seven thousand spindles. Mr. Freedley's cotton-mill also of stone, forty-seven by thirty-eight feet, two stories high, having one hundred and forty-three looms in operation, making thirty thousand yards of cotton goods weekly. According to the census of 1840, Norristown then possessed three cotton manufactories, with nineteen thousand one hundred and sixty-four spindles, and one dye and print-works; value of products, \$454,958, and giving employment to five hundred hands. This brief sketch of early manufacturing industries is here offered as introductory to the greatly increased business of this day, for which it laid the foundation and opened the way for what may still lead to greater success.

Early Schools.—Although Norristown in 1790 did not contain over eighteen houses, yet mention is made of a school-house. It is probable that in the laying out of the town in 1785 for a county-seat, a lot of ground had either been reserved or some time previously granted for this purpose. A writer, in giving reminiscences of the place in 1853, mentions in the beginning of the century here "a small school-house." This statement does not appear correct, for on the completion of the academy a committee sold the school-building at public sale, January 11, 1805, and in the advertisement thereof it is described as standing on lot No. 3, "being on the main street, near the centre of the town, built of stone, two stories high, one room and entry on the lower floor and two on the second." We certainly perceive here a fair-sized building, particularly for a village that then did not contain over fifty-five houses, and probably when first built did not comprise one-third this number; but it is possible that it may have been enlarged.

The earliest teacher whose name we have been enabled to ascertain was the Rev. John Jones, a Presbyterian clergyman, who taught in the aforesaid school-house in September, 1803, if not somewhat earlier.

He kept an assistant teacher and gave instructions in English grammar and the Latin and Greek languages. It was about this time or a little later that John J. Audubon, of Lower Providence, afterwards the celebrated naturalist, was engaged to give pupils instruction in drawing, partly in exchange for lessons in English, and who, it appears, was then retained at intervals for several years thereafter. He was at this time about thirty-two or thirty-three years of age and unmarried. In the spring of 1803, Charles Fortman, a graduate of one of the German universities, came to Norristown, boarding with Michael Broadt, of the "New Moon" tavern, and advertised to give instructions in the English, German and French languages and vocal and instrumental music, especially on the piano-forte and organ. Among his pupils was the wife of General Francis Swaine, who was, probably, one of the first owners of a piano in Norristown. The instruction books of Mr. Fortman were all in manuscript, written by him in three languages, and are models of penmanship. The writer's father was one of his pupils and possesses several of these, which are now highly valued.

Besides the academy was the opening of a boarding-school for young ladies and day scholars by Amelia Stokes, in September, 1811. She announced to teach among the branches "English grammar, elements of geography and history, together with plain sewing, marking and embroidery." This year the teachers in and around Norristown organized a "Franklinian Society, for the purpose of disseminating knowledge in the most simple, expeditious and rational method, and for the better maintaining of brotherly affection among teachers of every denomination." The first quarterly meeting was held at the house of Samuel Patterson, in Norristown, the first Saturday in November, 1811, at three o'clock P.M. Francis Murphy, a noted teacher at this time, was the secretary. Nathan Smith, from the Gulf, in Upper Merion announces the opening of a boarding-school "for young gentlemen and ladies," January 20, 1814, in which he proposed to teach besides, the ordinary branches, book-keeping, elocution, English grammar, composition, geography, mathematics, astronomy and the Latin and Greek languages. Charge for tuition and boarding per annum, one hundred and sixty dollars; for day scholars per quarter, seven dollars; pupils limited to fifty. What success attended this effort we are unable to state.

A meeting of the teachers of the county was called at Norristown May 21, 1814, when Hugh Dickson was called to the chair and Joseph Foulke appointed secretary. It was agreed by the meeting that pupils be chargeable from the time of entry until notice be given to leave the school; the charge to pupils advanced no farther than spelling and reading to be two dollars per quarter; from commencing in writing and arithmetic, two dollars and fifty cents; and in geometry, three dollars. In the summer of 1816, David

Sower, Jr., stated that at this time there were four schools taught in the borough. "Two daily primary schools" were mentioned in 1830. William M. Hough, who was principal of Loller Academy in 1835, subsequently removed to Norristown, where he opened a select school for boys on the present site of Oakland Seminary, in which he was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Aaron in April, 1841. This was the only private school in the place. In December, 1844, he opened Treemount Seminary, for young men and boys which he continued to conduct with considerable success until his financial embarrassment, when, in September, 1859, he removed to Mount Holly, where he died in 1865.

The Rev. James Grier Ralston opened a seminary for young ladies in October, 1845, with only four pupils, but it was attended with such success that before 1858 he had in use the most extensive school buildings that had heretofore been erected in the county, being four stories high and two hundred and twenty-five by forty-two feet in dimensions, known as the Oakland Female Institute. Mr. Ralston stated in 1876 that up to that date two thousand five hundred young ladies, had received instruction within its walls. He died November 10, 1880, and a short time before this relinquished the business, since which it has not been used for educational purposes. In 1857 the Misses Bush established the Adelpian Institute for young ladies, which was continued for several years. At the present time the only private seminary in the place is Treemount, for young men and boys, of which John W. Loch became principal in 1861, and has since successfully conducted the school.

THE ACADEMY.—In taking a glimpse of the educational establishments of the past, the old academy should not be forgotten, for within its time-honored walls many now on the stage of action received their education. The school-house previously used in Norristown being deemed inadequate for the size of the place, and with a view of having higher branches taught therein, a meeting was held at the house of Elisha Evans, January 29, 1803, at four o'clock P.M., "for the purpose of establishing an Academy at Norristown." On this occasion General Andrew Porter was chosen chairman, and it was agreed to hold an adjourned meeting at the same place on the following Saturday. General Francis Swaine, Seth Chapman and Levi Pawling were appointed a committee to prepare a plan to be laid before the next meeting. Their report was approved, which suggested "that it is practicable to build an Academy in Norristown sufficiently large to accommodate those who may select it for the education of youth, and that the establishment of a seminary of learning will be advantageous to the citizens of Montgomery County generally, and that this meeting will use every reasonable endeavor to obtain so desirable an object."

Thirty-five persons were authorized to prepare

subscription papers and distribute them for the purpose of securing the requisite aid. The persons selected for this purpose were William Tennant, John Richards, Francis Nichols, Philip Boyer, Archibald Darrah, Francis Swaine, Seth Chapman, Robert Hammill, Isaiah Wells, John Jones, Robert Loller, Samuel Malsby, Samuel Henderson, Thomas Potts, Frederick Conrad, Ezekiel Rhoads, Joseph Potts, Michael Broadt, Slater Clay, Peter Richards, Benjamin Markley, Israel Bringham, Andrew Porter, John Markley, Morris Jones, Levi Pawling, William Henderson, Samuel Miles, Henry Scheetz, Cadwalader Evans, Jr., David Lukens, John Elliott, Joseph Tyson, John Wentz and Benjamin Brooks. They were certainly a judicious selection, there being included in this list some of the most intelligent, public-spirited and influential citizens residing in the county. They were also instructed to prepare a plan for the building and to make an estimate of its cost for the consideration of the next meeting, in February of said year. An act was passed March 29, 1804, investing its thirteen trustees with the usual corporate powers, and authorizing them to sell the lot of ground and school-house thereon for the benefit of the academy. It is probable that the building of the academy was commenced in the spring of 1803, but not wholly finished until the summer of the following year. The Rev. John Jones was selected its first principal, and must have taught school therein at least in the beginning of 1804, for he held "a public examination of the students of Norristown Academy" in the court-house, April 14th of that year, "in reading and pronunciation, English grammar and Latin and Greek classics."

As a committee on behalf of the trustees, Francis Swaine, Levi Pawling and Isaac Huddleson sold the former school-building at public sale, January 11, 1805, and the proceeds were applied to the academy. An additional act was passed February 11, 1805, by which the State appropriated five thousand dollars for its completion. In the order of time it was the tenth institution of the kind incorporated in Pennsylvania. It was built of brick, two stories high and forty by thirty feet in dimensions. The first floor contained one large room that could seat one hundred and twenty-five pupils, desks being provided for about half that number. The second story was divided into two rooms, reached by separate stairways at either end of the building. It was surmounted by a cupola which contained a bell of fine tone and considerable power. Its location was at the lower end of the present market-house and on the north side of the intersection of Airy and De Kalb, partly extending into the latter street, which did not extend any farther, its front facing the Schuylkill.

How long Mr. Jones was principal we are unable to state, but it must have been for several years. He is said to have formed the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church here in 1814, which held worship

in the academy until the erection, of the church building in 1817, when the Rev. Joseph Barr succeeded him as principal of the school and pastor of the church. The Episcopalians also held their first meetings for worship in it in 1811, and continued there until the completion of their church, in 1814. The Baptists, Methodists and Catholics also worshiped there until the erection of their churches. Thomas B. Hahn, in his "Reminiscences of Norristown about 1816-17," states: "I remember the Academy on the hill,—pretty good reason to remember it, for old Joseph Barr, and another Barr, a son of his, used to lay on the 'sprouts' in a manner that would be a caution to school-boys nowadays. Judge Loller, of Hatboro', who was one of its first trustees, had the kindness to remember it in his will, dated June 4, 1808, by donating to its use the sum of fifty pounds. It is possible, that through this position, he had his mind first directed to the subject which led, five years later, to the foundation of Loller Academy."

Mr. Barr, in the fall of 1813, was installed pastor of the Providence and Norriton Churches, and as his salary was inadequate to his support, was induced to assume the charge of the academy. The Rev. Robert H. McClenachan, also pastor of the Norristown Presbyterian Church, became principal of the academy, and likely succeeded Mr. Barr. In 1825, and for several years afterwards, Eliphalet Roberts was principal and had charge of the English, and Mr. Howe of the classical department. About 1842, Rev. Samuel Aaron became principal, and retained the position until about the close of 1844, when he started the Treemount Seminary. About 1845 De Kalb Street was graded and extended northwards, leaving the academy standing some ten or twelve feet above the present grade. In order to carry out the contemplated improvements it was deemed necessary that it should be removed, and so in 1849 its walls were finally razed to the ground, and thus passed away forever this institution after an existence of nearly half a century, the nursery of tuition to many youths and young men under able instructors. Not a trace now remains of either the old academy or its famous playground of an acre in extent, for even the surface of the latter, too, has been removed, a sacrifice to modern improvements. But the reminiscences associated with both will long linger in tradition among the descendants of its pupils.

Within this building the Montgomery County Bible Society, of which the Rev. Bird Wilson was president, held its first meetings in 1819. When the Cabinet of Natural Science was started, about 1830, it was here that they held their meetings and kept their collections, which such men as Peter A. Browne and Alan W. Corson felt an interest to promote, and whose proceedings were maintained for some twelve years. As the property was held in trust for the benefit of the public, it became necessary to

have an act of the Legislature passed to have it sold, and the proceeds of the sale were placed to the credit of the borough school-fund. A small drawing of the academy was made in 1842, and is, perhaps, the only remaining memorial to convey some idea of its appearance.

Lumber and Coal.—About the beginning of the century John Markley had established a lumber-yard in Norristown, where he advertised sixty thousand feet of one and one-half inch pine boards for sale in June, 1804. Thomas & Holstein, in connection with their store, announced, in May, 1808, having on hand and for sale one hundred thousand feet of boards. George & J. Righter established this year a lumber-yard, "having a lot of well-seasoned boards of almost every description." At this period the principal carpenters and builders were Samuel Crawford and Thomas Stroud. The former erected the courthouse and Presbyterian Church, the latter the Episcopal Church and McCredy's cotton-factory. David Sowers, Jr., in his enumeration in 1816, states that the borough then contained one lumber-yard, one brick-yard and four master-carpenters.

Benjamin Davies, in his "Account of Philadelphia," published in 1794, makes the following remarks respecting the increasing scarcity of fuel:

"The price of firewood, which advances year after year with the increased demand for it, would be an alarming circumstance to those who wish well the prosperity of the city were it not well known that there are many rich bodies of pit-coal near the banks of the Susquehanna, Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers, the most distant not above one hundred and fifty miles from the city, which will, when opened, afford an inexhaustible source of fuel. In the interim, to lessen the expense of this item in house-keeping, many of the inhabitants have introduced the use of stoves, a custom borrowed from the Germans, a frugal and industrious people, who compose a numerous class of citizens of Philadelphia."

Joseph Pastorius announced having received in the fall of 1824, at his lumber-yard, in the borough of Norristown, "several arks of Schuylkill coal. Families and smiths can be supplied with any quantity on reasonable terms." The *Herald* of October 26, 1825, states that "we are pleased to find that a number of our enterprising citizens have commenced the burning of stone-coal. Grates and stoves are now fixed up in several of the offices, bar-rooms and private dwellings in this borough. It is generally admitted that coal at seven dollars per ton is cheaper than hickory wood at five dollars per cord." In October of this year Joseph Pastorius advertised having on hand "a regular supply of Schuylkill coal of the first quality at seven dollars per ton."

The aforesaid items, collected from several sources, possess at this time considerable interest, and go to show the remarkable changes that time has brought about. For that early date the remarks of Mr. Davies exhibit a remarkable knowledge of the extent, quality and uses of coal, which William Scull had denoted on his map of the province, published in 1770, which exposes considerable error respecting later discoveries on the subject. The information clearly demonstrates that coal was known con-

siderably earlier than what has been generally supposed; the difficulty of bringing it to market alone prevented its earlier introduction for all the purposes of a fuel.

Events Following the Borough Incorporation.—Three months had not passed away after the incorporation of Norristown before war had been declared by the United States against Great Britain for the many injuries done to our commerce and the repeated insults offered us as a nation. Thomas Mahon, of the Sixteenth Regiment United States Infantry, was stationed as commanding officer here in the fall of 1812, to enlist men for the service. Captain Horatio Davis, in the spring of 1813, was sent in the place of the former, and at his rendezvous posted up the following notice:

"All patriotic young men are invited to come forward who are able and willing to serve their country and engage only for twelve months. Each recruit shall receive \$16 bounty and \$8 per month. A corporal will be entitled to \$9, and a sergeant to \$11 per month. Plenty of good rations will be provided and excellent clothing furnished."

On hearing of the news of the capture of Malden by General Harrison, Norristown was illuminated on the evening of October 1st of this year. Lieutenant Samuel Ladd was made the recruiting officer here at the latter date, and in the following March offered "\$124 bounty and 160 acres of land to those joining the service at \$8 per month. For procuring the enlistment of a recruit, \$8 will be paid." While the office was established here five of the recruits ran away, for whom a reward of ten dollars each was offered, and "all reasonable charges when committed to any officer in the service of the United States." Peace was concluded December 24, 1814, when enlistments ceased.

Charles Norris, a great-grandson of Isaac Norris, the original proprietor of the Manor of Norriton, died at his country-seat, near the borough, December 14, 1813, his wife, Eunice, having preceded him but little over a year. They were both respected members of the Society of Friends. His will, from which we glean the following family history, was dated but little over four months before his death. To his daughter Mary he leaves the farm of 170 acres in the tenure of David Shrack, to be struck off on the easterly side of land in the tenure of John Miller. To his daughter Deborah he leaves 229 acres in the tenure of Robert Getty, likewise 80 acres to be struck off of the plantation in the tenure of John Bartleswa, to run in a straight line from the Schuylkill to the township line-road. To his daughter Hepzibah, 30 acres where he now dwells, with all the out-buildings, and 30 acres now in the tenure of John Bartleswa, after 80 acres are taken off to his daughter Deborah, and 100 to his daughter Mary. To his daughter Hepzibah fifty dollars per annum as long as she lives. To his sister-in-law Keziah Gardner two hundred and forty dollars per annum arising from the Library Company as a ground rent as long as she remains single.

Albanus Logan and John Jacobs were appointed his executors. Will proved January 15, 1814. It appears he had no male descendants and that the family had still retained considerable land in the vicinity of the present borough.

A lot of ground containing one acre and ninety-six perches was purchased by the borough authorities from John Markley, May 13, 1814, "in trust for the use of the inhabitants of Norristown, for a public landing, under and subject to such rules and regulations as the Town Council or their successors in office may, from time to time, ordain and enact." This public wharf is situated on Stony Creek, below Main Street.

John Markley, whom we have mentioned as sheriff from 1798 to 1801, became the owner here of five hundred and forty acres, with valuable improvements, purchased from William Moore Smith, who had obtained it from the university; it had previously belonged to Colonel John Bull. On account of his prominence, he deserves a further notice in this connection. In 1803 he was appointed one of the trustees of the academy, and in the following year he was engaged in the lumber business. In 1805 he erected the present buildings on Barbadoes Island, probably the first erected there. In 1809 he advertised the island for sale, but subsequently exchanged it for a heavily-timbered farm to the rear of the borough. In the spring of 1811 he was appointed one of the commissioners for the sale of stock for the construction of the Ridge Road Turnpike Company. He was appointed recorder of deeds and register of wills for Montgomery County January 8, 1824, which he retained until 1830. He resided in the old Smith mansion, on the north side of Main Street, above Swede, where he died July 28, 1834, in his seventieth year. His ancestor, Jacob Merkle, resided in Perkiomen township in 1734, where he was the owner of a farm rated for two hundred acres. Besides the offices mentioned, he was also a collector of the United States taxes and a county commissioner.

David Sower, Jr., in his enumeration of the borough in the summer of 1816, states that it then contained one church, an academy, a fire-engine, four schools, about one hundred houses, three physicians, five lawyers, one clergyman, two magistrates, two printers of weekly newspapers, one apothecary, two cabinet-makers, three tailors, one cedar-cooper, one coach-maker, three butchers, five stores, five taverns, two plasterers, one watch-maker, one mason, one chair-maker, three blacksmiths, two hatters, one saddler, two oak-coopers, one milliner, one tanner, one barber, four carpenters and four shoemakers. Before the year 1818 Norristown was a dull, quiet, dreamy place. No important public improvements had yet been completed, except the turnpike to Philadelphia, in 1816. Outside of politics, the great event was the holding of the courts four times in the year. The boatman's horn was not yet heard; no

noise or smoke from furnaces, forges and factories to disturb its tranquillity; the rumbling sounds from long trains of cars and the shrill whistle of the locomotive had not then even been dreamed of. The ark, the raft and the Reading boat, with the catching of shad, herring, rockfish, and the leaping into air of the sturgeon, gave some animation every spring to the waters of the Schuylkill, as well as to the fish-hawk, as he rapidly descended to strike his finny prey and convey it to his nest near some tall tree-top,—sights that have passed away, and will not soon be witnessed here again.

General Andrew Porter, "of West Caln township, Chester Co.," purchased, May 10, 1786, of Alexander McCaman and Mary, his wife, of Norriton township, their plantation of one hundred and fifty-five acres, in two tracts, which they had obtained of Mary, widow of Charles Norris, deceased, September 3, 1770. On the death of General Porter, November 16, 1813, this property was advertised at public sale the following December 24th, and is described as being "on the Ridge turnpike road, eighteen miles from Philadelphia and one from Norristown; containing one hundred and twenty acres; a large stone dwelling-house, fifty feet front by thirty-six deep; stone barn, sixty by forty-five feet; a stone tenant-house; containing forty acres of woodland and twelve of meadow." We perceive here, that the buildings were quite commodious for that time, the house having been built by its then late proprietor, in 1794. Owing to the insufficiency of the bids offered, the place was not sold. The property was purchased from the heirs by Andrew Knox, Jr., in 1821, who made it his residence and died there in 1844, his widow surviving until 1858. His son, the late Colonel Thomas P. Knox, who became the proprietor in 1851, died there May 29, 1879, in his seventieth year, and it still remains in possession of his family. On this place David R. Porter, Governor of Pennsylvania from 1838 to 1844; James M. Porter, Secretary of War under President Tyler; and George B. Porter, Governor of Michigan, sons of the first named, were born and reared. By the enlargement of Norristown in 1853 the Porter property was included in the borough limits.

The visit of Lafayette in 1824 created an unusual excitement throughout the country. A meeting on this account was called by the officers of the Second Brigade of the Second Division of the Pennsylvania Militia at the public-house of Mrs. Ann Webb, in Norristown, August 25, in that year. General Philip Boyer was appointed chairman, and Colonel George W. Holstein and Colonel John E. Gross secretaries. Colonel William Powell, Colonel J. E. Gross and Lieutenant Richard B. Jones were appointed a committee to draft resolutions, which were adopted. Colonel G. W. Holstein, Colonel William Burk, Colonel William Powell, Major William Matheys, Captain Philip S. Markley and Lieutenant R. B. Jones were appointed "a committee of arrangements to wait on

General Lafayette on his arrival in Philadelphia, and respectfully invite him to visit the county of Montgomery, particularly Whitmarsh, Barren Hill and also Valley Forge,—scenes that must be endeared to his recollection by events that tried men's souls." Among the military present at the reception in Philadelphia, September 30th, from Montgomery County, were two companies of cavalry, under the command of Captains William Matheys and George W. Holstein and the Norristown Guards, Captain P. S. Markley. Two canal-boats, called the "Lafayette" and "John G. Cosler," each twelve by sixty-five feet, and capable of carrying nearly one hundred tons, joined the three boats from Reading filled with military. The papers of the day stated that on this "joyful occasion would be identified three most interesting and important subjects for congratulation and triumph ever witnessed in Philadelphia,—namely, the visit of Lafayette, the opening of the Schuylkill Canal and the arrival of the boats laden with coal from Mount Carbon." The deputation from Montgomery County waited on Lafayette at the State House September 29th. In reply, he stated that owing to his several engagements, more particularly at Yorktown, October 19th, it was, therefore, not in his power to comply at present, but on his return it was his intention to visit those places.

For a few years after the completion of the Schuylkill Navigation, the stagnation of the water in the dams caused considerable alarm, on account of the increase of fever and ague. Twenty-four persons died in the borough during the year 1824, being equivalent to one in every thirty-seven of the population. Samuel Jamison, Sr., came to the borough in 1828 to superintend the starting of the first cotton-factory in the place, which had been erected by Bernard McCredy, in 1826, at the foot of Swede Street. After getting it in operation, owing to the prevalence of the disease, he was induced to leave, and removed to Holmesburg. It appears that after 1830 the fever gradually abated along the valley, until it has for years almost entirely disappeared throughout this section.

By the act of September 13, 1785, the county was divided into three districts. The townships of Norriton, Plymouth, Whitpain, Upper Merion, Providence, Worcester and Perkiomen comprised the First District whose elections were ordered to be held in the court-house at Norristown. The act of 1797 increased the number, and Perkiomen was attached to another district, whose elections were ordered to be held in the court-house at Norristown. The First District, in October, 1802, polled 859 votes. In 1824 the district was composed of the borough of Norristown and the townships of Upper Merion, Plymouth, Norriton, Whitpain, Worcester and that part of Lower Providence east of Skippack Creek. In 1838 the district was reduced to Norristown, Upper Merion, Norriton, Plymouth and that part of Lower Providence mentioned.

As to the manner of voting where several townships thus met together, it is explained that to each was assigned a window, with its own officers, instead of the whole district being confined to one ballot-box. It is probable that before 1850 this method was entirely done away with, and every township had its designated election-place within its own limits. Thus, instead of seven townships voting at one place in Norristown, as they did a century ago, we find now the borough itself divided into seven districts, each having its own polls.

Owing to the increase of its population, an act was passed March 26, 1853, to enlarge the borough to its present dimensions. Philip Super, Charles T. Jenkins and John Thompson, residents of the county, were appointed commissioners to carry into effect the provisions of the act of Assembly.

The prison erected in 1787 stood upon the site of the present court-house, while the one in its place was built on a lot of ground two hundred and twenty-four by one hundred feet in extent, fronting on Airy Street, west of De Kalb. It is of red sandstone, in the castellated Norman style. The front building is one hundred by forty-four feet; the rear addition, containing the cells, is one hundred and thirty by sixty feet, the whole being two stories high. The cells are nine by thirteen feet each, in which the prisoners work at various employments, chiefly weaving and shoemaking. The criminals were removed from the old prison to the present structure on its completion, in the latter part of 1851. Its cost was about eighty-six thousand dollars. N. Le Brun was the architect. Its builders were Raysor & Templeton, the county commissioners at the time being Messrs. Dotts, Quillman and Major.

The court-house is one of the finest buildings of the kind in the State. It is built of native white marble, procured within a few miles of its site, as was also the lime used in its construction. It was erected during the years 1853 to 1856. N. Le Brun was the architect. The front on Swede Street is one hundred and ninety-six feet, with a central width of sixty-four feet, the wings being sixty-six by forty-seven feet. The massive portico in front is supported by six Ionic columns. The steeple was originally two hundred feet high, and was placed to rest partly on the portico. Being deemed unsafe, it was reduced, prior to 1876, to its present height, which somewhat mars the general harmony of the parts. It contains a clock and a bell weighing three thousand and two hundred and thirty-two pounds, cast at Troy, N. Y. The various county offices, the Law Library, and other rooms for the use of court proceedings, arbitrations, etc., are in the building. The cost was one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, of which nineteen hundred and seventy dollars was allowed the architect for his services. The old court-house built in 1787 was torn down in 1855, and the grass of the public square grows over the spot where justice was administered for sixty-seven years, and where the

elections for all the neighboring townships were held for more than half a century.

In the public square adjoining the court-house a soldiers' monument has been erected, composed of white and blue marble, nineteen feet high, dedicated September 17, 1869. It contains the names of five hundred and forty-seven soldiers who enlisted in the



SOLDIERS' MONUMENT, NORRISTOWN.

county and died in the service during the late great Rebellion; the total number furnished for the same in Montgomery being nearly eight thousand men.

Among the most notable events that have occurred in Norristown was the late celebration of the centennial of the county. The association that brought it about originated at a meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Society held February 22, 1883, when a joint committee of the Society and of the county officers appointed one person from each election district to prepare and arrange the necessary plans. The association held a meeting the following September 10th, when several gentlemen were called upon to offer remarks and suggestions for its success, which was responded to by Colonel T. W. Bean, Rev. C. Z. Weiser, William J. Buck, J. J. Morrison, Dr. C. N. Mann, George N. Corson and Dr. S. Wolf. A com-

mittee of eight was appointed on permanent organization. A president and other officers, with a chairman of the executive committee and of finance, antiquities, programme, literary exercises, parade and the Rittenhouse memorial were also duly chosen. The four principal rooms in the court-house and a portion of the yard were secured, in which the antiquarian exhibition was held the following year from September 9th to 12th, inclusive, and which was visited by probably twenty thousand persons, exhibits having been sent in by almost every district, embracing all matters bearing on the history and progress of the county since its first settlement. In the departments of early and rare books, manuscripts, family Bibles, coins, paper money, minerals, wearing apparel, Indian and Revolutionary relics and agricultural implements the exhibit was particularly excellent. On the first day the opening address was made by Joseph Fornance, the president of the association, after which the Rittenhouse meridian-stone was dedicated in the court-house yard, with an address by Hon. B. M. Boyer. On the second day the memorial exercises were held in Music Hall, which was crowded to its utmost capacity. Music was furnished by a chorus of more than one hundred voices accompanied by an orchestra. The historical address was delivered by William J. Buck, the poem by George N. Corson and the general address by Rev. C. Z. Weiser. On Thursday, or the third day, the parade in honor of the occasion came off, Colonel John W. Schall being chief marshal, about five thousand being in the line, embracing military, firemen, fraternal and benevolent organizations, trades, manufactures and industrial pursuits. It is supposed that it was witnessed by not less than forty thousand persons not residents of Norristown. The expense under the circumstances was considerable, but was all met from what was realized from the admission fees to the four days' antiquarian exhibition.

Barbadoes Island.—The island in the Schuylkill at Norristown is mentioned in a warrant from William Penn to Ralph Fretwell, a merchant from Barbadoes, as early as August 16, 1684, as "the long island called Barbadoes." They were both at this time in the country, the latter having arrived in Philadelphia, according to his certificate from Friends' Meeting there, in the beginning of that year. But the grant, it appears, was subsequently withheld, and another tract assigned him,—a matter common in those days, and showing that the country, at least along the great water-courses, was quite early and closely examined. It is represented with tolerable correctness on Thomas Holme's map of original surveys, having probably been entered upon it before 1695. It became attached to the Manor of Williamstadt, granted to William Penn, Jr., October 2, 1704, and a few days afterwards sold by the latter to Isaac Norris and William Trent. The former, in 1720, purchased the right of his partner, and thus it was retained in the

Norris family.¹ Shortly after the decease of Charles Norris it was sold by Mary, his widow, September 17, 1771, with five hundred and forty-three acres, to John Bull, of Limerick township. The deed describes "Barbadoes Island" at this date to be four hundred perches in length and at the broadest part sixty perches wide, containing eighty-eight acres.

During the life-time of Charles Norris, which was previous to 1770, he erected a dam from the northern shore across to Barbadoes Island to propel his grist-mill, which has led to the origin of the water-power secured here from the Schuylkill. The commissioners that had been appointed under an act of Assembly passed March 14, 1761, to improve the river navigation, in consequence of the decease of Mr. Norris, applied to John Bull, in 1773, requiring from him, as the owner of said mill, water-power and island, to "erect from the upper end of the aforesaid dam, or wall, of at least twenty perches in length, and inclining in some degree to the eastern side of the said river, and of such height as should be above the water at all times, other than in freshes, so as to direct the waters into the western channel, and also in its building would make use of the stones lying in the western channel." If this was not done the said commissioners would prostrate or remove said dam altogether, so that the channel should "forever thereafter be free and unobstructed to navigation."

Colonel Bull sold his property here, October 30, 1776, to Rev. William Smith, for the use of the University. After 1784, William Moore Smith, son of the aforesaid, became the owner, who sold it, with the remainder of his real estate, to John Markley, of Norristown, about 1800 or not long before. In the summer of 1804 the latter erected upon it the two-story stone house now standing, and which was very probably the first one built there. At that time the greater portion of the island was covered with forest, and in October of that year Markley advertised for hands to cut thereon one hundred and fifty cords of wood. In December, 1805, it was advertised for sale, and was described as containing forty acres of standing timber. With the prosperity of Norristown and vicinity, Barbadoes was becoming more and more a place of resort. The Federal Republican Troop of Horse, commanded by Captain Joseph Price, was ordered to meet at the public-house of Elisha Evans, in Norristown, May 2, 1803, and from thence precisely at three o'clock, proceed to parade on Barbadoes Island. In the

spring of 1804 hand-bills and advertisements were issued over the county and in Philadelphia announcing that the "Barbadoes Island Races will commence on the 8th of May, when a purse of four hundred dollars will be run for four-mile heats; the day following for three-mile heats, for a purse of two hundred dollars, and the third day, one hundred dollars for two-mile heats." According to tradition, races were continued there more or less at intervals for several years. Mr. Markley advertised the island again in November, 1809, and stated it as then "containing about one hundred acres, the soil equal to any in the county, consisting of a black loam of unquestionable quality," thirty acres of woodland, two-story stone dwelling-house and other improvements. We know that he still owned it June 27, 1820, when a public meeting was held, of which Captain P. S. Markley, son of the proprietor, was chairman, the object being to have a committee purchase from John Markley the right of way across the lower end of Barbadoes Island, that the communication from Norristown with the canal on the opposite side of the river be not impeded. It was no doubt owing chiefly to the opposition of the latter that this improvement was not located along the borough, and which induced Elisha Evans by his liberal offers to exercise his influence to have it where it now is.

The Schuylkill Canal and Navigation Company began its improvements in 1816, and two years later began building a dam across the river at the lower part of the island, which, by raising the water, was the means of considerably reducing its area. To avoid the expense of litigation, the company purchased, and still own it. Its length, in consequence, is now about three-quarters of a mile, or only about one-half of what it was at the time of Colonel Bull's purchase. Just below its lowermost extremity was the famous Swedes' Ford crossing place, known by this name at least as early as 1723. The dam was not, however, raised to its present height until 1830, (the year that the De Kalb Street bridge was completed) which has since washed away the remaining portion of the island that had been left below it. On the 4th of July, 1825, the Norristown Guards, commanded by Captain Philip S. Markley, paraded through the streets of Norristown, after which, at twelve o'clock, they proceeded with a band of music, accompanied by a number of citizens, to Barbadoes Island, where the day was duly celebrated. This military company we know had also spent July 4, 1820, here in a similar manner.

Lewis Shrack, a noted stage proprietor of Norristown, in 1824, announced to the public the "Barbadoes Island Floating Baths" in the summer of 1828, as being moored in the river Schuylkill, safely anchored in eight feet of water, and divided into five compartments, varying from six to sixteen feet, and a depth of from two to five feet, with a floor at the bottom. "The centre apartment is handsomely fitted up where

¹ Since the above has been written, additional research has disclosed the following interesting document, that now obliges the writer to make here a slight correction:

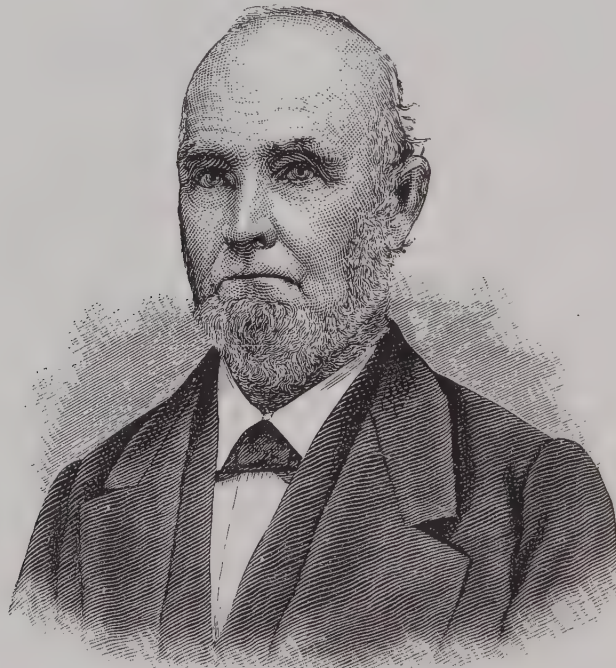
"In pursuance of a Warrant from the Proprietaries, to me directed, December 17, 1733, I certify I have surveyed unto Isaac Norris, of Fair Hill, Esq., all that Great Island lying in the River Schuylkill, opposite the Manor of Williamstadt, situate in the County of Philadelphia, the said Island being in length about 400 perches, and in breadth in the broadest place about 60 perches, containing 88 acres. Returned into the Secretary's office, 8th of 12th month, 1733-34.

"BENJAMIN EASTBURN, Sur.-General."

visitors can be accommodated with refreshments. Pleasure-boats and fishing-tackle may be had by those who wish to amuse themselves with sailing or fishing. Within a few yards, in a beautifully retired spot, is a fountain of pure, sweet water, shaded by a thick cluster or grove of trees. Between the spring and the river there is a fine green lawn, which adds much to the beauty of the landscape. In fine, the subscriber invites his friends and fellow-citizens to come, see and be convinced."

The only improvements on the island are its farm buildings, and it is not used for any other purposes. Its probable area is now about fifty acres, with very little

Robert Hamill; 1824, Charles Jones; 1825, Levi Pawling; 1826, Frederick Conrad; 1827-28, George Govett; 1829, Alexander Moore, Jr.; 1830, John Freedley; 1831, Samuel D. Patterson; 1832, Philip Kendell; 1833-34, William Powell; 1835-36, James M. Pawling; 1837, John H. Hobart; 1838, William Powell and Enoch C. Frys, tie vote; 1839, William Powell; 1840-41, Benjamin F. Hancock; 1842, Henry Freedley; 1843-44, James Boyd; 1845, John Potts; 1846, William Rossiter; 1847, John R. Breitenbach; 1848, John H. Hobart; 1849, Israel Thomas; 1850, Benjamin E. Chain; 1851, Thomas W. Potts; 1852, Joseph W. Hunsicker; 1853-55, Zadok T. Galt; 1856, R. T. Stewart; 1857, Charles T. Miller; 1858, Enoch A. Banks; 1859, Charles H. Garber; 1860-61, Edward Schall; 1862, Franklin March; 1863, William H. Griffith; 1864-65, Edward Schall; 1866, William Allabaugh; 1867, Daniel Jacoby; 1868-69, William Allabaugh; 1870-72, Henry S. Smith; 1873-74, Jonas A. Reiff; 1875-76, George Schall; 1877, William J. Bolton; 1878, Irwin P. Wanger; 1879, Wallace J. Boyd; 1880-82, George W. Grady; 1883, F. J. Baker; 1884-85, John H. White.



S. T. May

remaining woodland. A fine view of it is presented from the western abutment of the De Kalb Street bridge. It has been suggested that the borough of Norristown should purchase it and have it made into a public promenade and park, for which purpose it would be most excellently adapted. The advantages of a park would be to help maintain the purity of the water, and from its insular position the breezes would always prove inviting during the sultry heat of summer.

The following is a list of the burgesses of the borough of Norristown from its organization to the present time.

1812, Gen. Francis Swaine; 1813-16, Levi Pawling; 1817-18, Matthias Holstein; 1819, William Henderson; 1820-21, Thomas Ross; 1822-23,

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

SELDEN T. MAY.

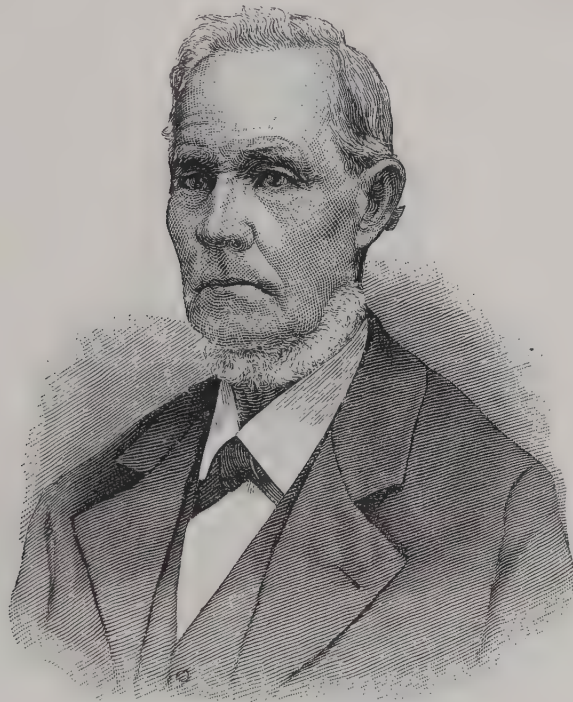
The progenitor of the May family in America was John May, who emigrated from Mayfield, County of Sussex, England, and settled about 1640 in Roxbury, Mass. His two sons, John and Samuel, came with him, from one of whom, in the direct line of descent, was born, the 11th of March, 1733, Eleazar May, the grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch. He married Sibyl Huntington, and had children,—John, Sibyl, Cynthia, Anna, Elizabeth,

Eleazar, Prudence, Clarissa, Huntington and Hezekiah. Of this number, Hezekiah, born December 26, 1773, married Margaret White, a descendant of the first white child born in New England, whose children were Clara, Hannah W., Benjamin, Hezekiah H., Selden T., William W., Mary Ann and Helen S. The birth of Selden T., occurred in Brownville, Me., from whence, in early youth, he removed to the western part of Pennsylvania, and received very modest advantages of education. In 1821 he accompanied his parents to Venango County, in the same State, and

Norristown. He died on the 4th of June, 1884, in his seventieth year.

DAVID Y. MOWDAY.

Mr. Mowday is of English descent, and the grandson of Christian Mowday. The latter was born at the Pine Iron-Works, Douglas township, Berks Co., Pa., and having at an early age been left an orphan, was bound out until twenty-one years of age. He then began the business of teaming, which was continued during his active life. His children were



Benj^r May

there engaged in the lumber business, continuing thus occupied until 1866, when, having retired from active commercial life, he made Norristown his place of residence. Mr. May was in politics a Republican, and while manifesting an intelligent interest in all the public questions of the day, never participated in the annual political contests of the county or State nor aspired to office. He, however, held the position of school director of the borough of Norristown. Mr. May married Miss Cynthia Elizabeth Selden, of Chester, Conn., whose death occurred August 11, 1880. In his religious belief Selden T. May was a Presbyterian, and a member of the First Presbyterian Church of

David, William and Elizabeth. David was born at the Pine Iron-Works in 1805, and followed milling for a limited time; after which he worked at the forge. He was, in 1826, married to Miss Sarah, daughter of Christian Yergey, of Berks County, and had children,—Mary Ann (Mrs. John Rynard), Wilhelmina (Mrs. Israel Jones), George W. (who died in youth), John R., David Y., William Y., Sarah Ann (Mrs. Nathan Swabeley), and Susan (Mrs. Daniel Eagle). David Y., of this number, was born May 13, 1834, at the Pine Iron-Works, Berks Co., where his youth, until fourteen years of age, was spent. He was then, after having received very lim-

ited advantages of education, placed at work upon a farm, and remained until his seventeenth year. He early manifested a desire to render himself independent by becoming master of a trade, and with that end in view, started with a very meagre supply of worldly goods for Norristown. His frank and manly bearing soon secured for him a friend and employer in Reuben C. Titlow, of Norristown, with whom he learned the trade of a cabinet-maker and undertaker, serving four years as an apprentice, and afterwards as journeyman. In 1858, with small capital, but good credit and strict integrity as a business man, he began his mercantile career. He was obliged, in 1861, ow-

W., Howard J., George W., Walter S., Orella E. now living, and Mary Ella, Franklin E., Joseph A. and William H., deceased. Mr. Mowday has devoted his time and attention exclusively to his business, and had no leisure for matters of a political or public nature. He is president of an influential organization known as the Liveryman's Association of Norristown. He is a member of Curtis Lodge, No. 239, I. O. O. F., and also connected with the Knights of Pythias. He has been for thirty years connected by membership with the Central Presbyterian Church of Norristown, Mrs. Mowday being also a member of this church.



D. Mowday

ing to the increase of business, to enlarge his shops and warerooms, and still again to extend their dimensions until his growing trade rendered necessary the erection of a block of buildings embracing twelve thousand eight hundred square feet, known as Nos. 240, 242, 244 and 246 Main Street, Norristown. Here he still continues the business, employing eleven men, eight horses, eight business wagons, one clerk and two salesmen, and giving his personal attention to every detail of this large and successful establishment. Mr. Mowday was, on the 8th of August, 1858, married to Miss Eliza S., daughter of Jacob Hummel, of Norristown, their children being David T., Daniel

DANIEL LONGAKER.

Daniel Longaker is the son of Isaac and Catherine Longaker, of Lower Providence, and was born August 6, 1813. After such opportunities as were obtainable at the school nearest his home, he engaged in active labor as a mechanic, and in 1842 removed from Plymouth township to Norristown, having two years before purchased an interest in a grocery-store in connection with Jacob T. Moore, under the style of Moore & Longaker. He, the same year, secured a lot and erected a dwelling, which was occupied as a family residence. The capital and energy which Mr. Longaker brought into the business soon made itself

felt in a marked increase in trade, and the firm were rewarded by signal prosperity. In 1847, Mr. Moore retired, having sold his interest to Jacob Childs, the firm becoming Longaker & Childs. The senior partner at this time turned his attention to real estate operations and erected several buildings, which have since been intimately associated with the business interests of the borough. Still another change was effected by the retirement of Mr. Childs, when the firm was known as Daniel Longaker & Co., his son George being admitted as a partner in 1860. After a career of uninterrupted prosperity, covering a period of thirty-three years, Mr. Longaker retired from active business, devoting his attention to his various invest-

may be regarded as a remarkable example of what industry, energy, frugality and sagacity may accomplish when employed in a single direction. Daniel Longaker was, in 1834, married to Elizabeth, daughter of George Boyer, of Norriton. Their children are George W., Kate (deceased), Anne E., Bertha (Mrs. D. W. Moore), Ella (Mrs. L. K. Evans), Sally, Lizzie (Mrs. Howard), Harry, Clara Bell, Mary (deceased) and Daniel (deceased).

WILLIAM STAHLER.

Elias Stahler, the father of William Stahler, was born in Lower Milford township, Lehigh Co., where he resided during his lifetime, and was actively



DANIEL LONGAKER.

ments. He was largely interested, and a director, in the Norristown Gas Company, the Norristown Water Company, the Montgomery Cemetery, the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad Company, the Montgomery National Bank, the Norristown Bridge Company, etc. He was never actively identified with the politics of the county, and did not confine his vote strictly within party lines, voting independently and with special reference to the fitness of candidates. He was in his religious views a Lutheran and a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Norristown, filling the office of trustee at the time of his death, which occurred August 7, 1880. Mr. Longaker possessed no advantages at the beginning of his career either of capital or education, and

interested in the cultivation of his farm. He married Catharine Broug, and had one son, William, and a daughter, Sarah, who became Mrs. Jonas Huber. William was born February 5, 1826, in Lower Milford, and at the age of thirteen, having been deprived of a father's care, became a member of the family of an uncle in Philadelphia. He received a plain English education in the latter city and became a clerk in the drug-store of Jenks & Ogden in 1845, and remained until 1854, meanwhile becoming proficient in chemistry and the various branches of the business. He then removed to Norristown and embarked in the drug business in connection with Amos W. Bertolet, with whom he continued for a period of eighteen months, when Philadelphia again became his home. Circum-

stances influenced his return to Norristown in 1856, when he became sole owner of the store in which he was formerly interested, and has since that date been its proprietor. Mr. Stahler was, on the 3d of June, 1856, married to Miss Savilla Eshbach, daughter of Abram Eshbach. Their children are Eugene A., a druggist in Bridgeport; William E., a Lutheran clergyman at Mount Jackson, Shenandoah Co., Va.; and Harry L., associated with his father in business. Mr. Stahler is one of the representative business men of Norristown and foremost in promoting its prosper-

SAMUEL YEAKLE.

The subject of this biographical sketch is the grandson of Christopher Yeakle, the pioneer and progenitor of the family in America, and his wife, Maria, daughter of Balthasar and Susanna Schultz. The children (six in number) of this worthy couple were Susanna (Mrs. Abram Heydrick), Maria (Mrs. George Dresher), Regina (Mrs. Abram Schultz), Abraham, Anna and Christopher. The last-named and youngest was born October 7, 1757, and married Susannah Kriebel, daughter of Rev. George Kriebel, on the 4th of June,



William Stahler

ity. He is a director of the Montgomery National Bank, as also of the Norristown Insurance Trust and Safe Deposit Company. In politics he is a Democrat, and has been for many years a member of the Council of the borough of Norristown. He was also made a Presidential elector in 1884. He is an active member of the Masonic order and connected with Charity Lodge, No. 90, and with Norristown Chapter, No. 190, and with Hutchinson Commandery, No. 32, all of Norristown. He is a member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, in which he has been for twenty years a deacon and for ten years treasurer.

1782. Their children were Lydia, born in 1783; Agnes, in 1785; Daniel, in 1786; Anna, in 1789; Sarah, in 1791; George, in 1793; Rebecca, in 1795; and Samuel in 1798. Mr. Yeakle resided on the place inherited from his father, which is the present site of the Pennsylvania Railroad depot at Chestnut Hill, where his death occurred July 10, 1843, and that of his wife April 24, 1830. Their son Samuel was born August 25, 1798, at Chestnut Hill, in Philadelphia County, where his youth, until twenty-four years of age, was spent. He was early taught the value of industry, and with the exception of the winter months de-

voted his youth to the various pursuits of a farmer. In November, 1823, he married Lydia, daughter of Abraham Anders, and had children,—William A., born in 1824; Charles A., in 1826; and Abraham A., in 1830. His wife having died on the 26th of December, 1846, he married a second time, on the 19th of November, 1850, Susanna, daughter of Samuel Dresher. In the spring of 1824, Mr. Yeakle removed to Whitmarsh township, and engaged in farming employments, which were continued until 1853, when Norristown became his residence. Mr. Yeakle was first

ancestry are briefly recorded as follows: His father was the son of Daniel Auge, a wine and shipping merchant of Bordeaux, west of France, but of Dutch or Belgian extraction. When a boy of twelve years Bennett, with an elder brother, Nicholas (1790), came to Cape François, Hayti, the former to serve as a clerk on a sugar plantation, and while so employed (in 1791), at the age of thirteen, he barely escaped assassination during the famous insurrection of the slaves. After lying hid, however, two days and nights among the sugar-cane, he was rescued, taken into the city and



Yeakle

a Whig and afterwards a Republican in politics. He has been school-director of Whitmarsh, and was twice elected to the Borough Council of Norristown. He is in religion a member of the society of Schwenkfelders, and worships with them when not prevented by the infirmities of age.

MOSES AUGE.

Moses Auge is the second son and fifth child of Bennett and Ann Auge. He was born at Centreville, New Castle Co., Del., November 11, 1811, and removed soon after to Pennsburg, Chester Co., near by. His

placed in the white and mulatto army of defense, and after a time transferred to the city of Port au Prince, where, after serving two or three years longer in the army, he, with other white inhabitants, fled the island, and with his brother came to Philadelphia about 1797 or 1798, and soon after the former was placed at school in Wilmington, Del. After leaving school he engaged a short time in business in that town, and soon after (1801) was married to Ann, eldest daughter of Moses and Mary (James) Mendenhall, of Pennsburg, Chester Co., who lived a mile west of the battle-ground of "Brandywine." The Mendenhall family were Friends,

and came to Pennsylvania about 1685 from Wiltshire, England, the progenitor settling at Concord, Chester (now Delaware) Co., Pa. The subject of this sketch is of the seventh generation from the original settler, Benjamin Mendenhall. He received a very limited education in primary branches, such as country schools imparted seventy years ago, only supplemented by a few months' instruction at West Chester Academy, under Jonathan Gause and Barbara Fuller. In 1827, when sixteen, he apprenticed himself to his brother, then in the hatting business at West Chester, to learn that trade, and, after working for him, boy and journeyman, ten years, came to Norristown (1837) to con-

the first and one of the latter deceased. The public service of Mr. Auge consists of the following: In 1857, in addition to his other business, he assumed the editorial management of the *Olive Branch*, a newspaper formerly conducted by Franklin P. Sellers, Dr. Joseph Moyer and Lewis H. Gause, which changed its name to the *Norristown Republican*, advocating temperance and "Republicanism," the latter then a very unpopular party name, and this publication continued until August, 1862. Mr. Auge served his country with the emergency men of 1863, carrying the musket as a private soldier. In 1871 he started a small weekly sheet to advocate temperance and other moral reforms,



M. Auge

duct a hat-store for his brother. The next year he entered a partnership, under the firm-name of M. & S. Auge, which existed five years, after which he continued it alone, and afterwards, for some time, in connection with Florence Sullivan, and, finally, alone until 1877, when he retired from mercantile business altogether, having managed one concern and lived in the same adjoining dwelling about fifty years.

In March, 1839, he connected himself with the First Presbyterian Church, Norristown, and in the spring of 1842 married Mary, second daughter of Thomas and Hannah Cowden, of Plymouth township. They have had four children, one son and three daughters,

publishing it also while continuing his hat and clothing business until November, 1874. In 1877-78 he collected materials and prepared his volume,—"Lives of the Eminent Dead and Biographical Notices of Prominent Living Citizens of Montgomery County." He also published a pamphlet of essays on reform subjects, covering sixty-four octavo pages. His moral and mental make-up, consisting of positive and unyielding qualities, place him out of the range of "available" men for public place. He has never sought or obtained any political preferment or the emoluments of public office. Mr. Auge is an apt writer, aggressive and critical in all reformatory

measures. A plain, truthful and eccentric man, he lives in the enjoyment of his own convictions, sound in mind and body at the age of three-score years and ten, and in the expectancy of *post-mortem* fame and rewards.

CHAPTER XLVIII.

BOROUGH OF NORTH WALES.

THIS thriving borough was incorporated August 20, 1869, and is situated about a mile northwest of the centre of Gwynedd township, from which all its territory, comprising about one hundred acres, was taken. In its form it is nearly square, and was laid out in 1867 by David Moyer. The streets in general run at right angles, the principal names of which are Wales, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Church, Montgomery, and Walnut. The Sumneytown and Spring-House turnpike, completed in 1848, forms Wales Street, which passes through the borough nearly half a mile. The North Pennsylvania Railroad divides it into nearly two equal portions, and the station here is about twenty miles from Philadelphia and about thirty-five from Bethlehem. North Wales is a translation of the Welsh name Gwineth, of which Gwynedd is a corruption. The settlement at the Friends' Meeting-house about a mile below this borough was called Gwineth by Lewis Evans on his map of 1749. The road through this place to the Spring-House was laid out before 1735. So recent is this borough that in looking over the county map of 1849 there is mention made only of the farms of Philip Hurst, D. Miller and J. Booz, on the Sumneytown turnpike, and, at a corner of the cross-roads, St. Peter's Church. The completion of the North Pennsylvania Railroad in 1856 laid the foundation for its prosperity. In 1884 the value of improved lands was \$299,945; value of unimproved lands, \$9185; value of all property taxable for county purposes, \$335,875. According to the census of 1880, the borough numbered six hundred and seventy-three inhabitants. Since then there has been a considerable increase in the population. North Wales contains one carriage manufacturer, two blacksmiths, one foundry, two general merchants, three green-grocers, one cigar manufacturer, two cigar-dealers, one jeweler, two feed merchants, one artist, three hotels, one bell-foundry, one restaurant, two physicians, one dentist, two undertakers, one planing-mill, one lumber-yard, one shutter-bolt manufactory, three florists, one coal-yard, one carpet-weaver, one hardware merchant, several house-painters, one marble-yard, one depot, two harness-makers, two barbers and one printing-office, in which is printed the *North Wales Record*.

The houses of worship include German Reformed, Baptist, Lutheran and Methodist Episcopal Churches.

There are three public schools in the borough, at

which one hundred and seventy-one pupils are in attendance. The school term is nine months and three teachers are employed, one at a salary of forty-three dollars and two at thirty-dollars per month.

There is also an academy and school of business conducted by Professor H. U. Brunner, a full description of which can be found in the chapter on "Education."

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church.—

One of the most interesting church organizations of Montgomery County is what was formerly known as "the old yellow church." Not a stone is left to mark the foundation of the endeared temple, but the spot is still sacred as the sleeping-place of those who worshiped within its walls. It is very difficult to furnish a complete history of this church. No minute-book of meetings held by the congregation or church council can be found except those of recent date. The pastors' record, beginning with 1787 and continuing until the present, though sometimes irregular and illegible, contains only the pastors' official acts.

Three church buildings in succession have been erected and used by the congregation. The exact date when the first church building was erected, or when the congregation was organized, cannot be determined from the books and papers in the possession of the church. An old deed, however, shows that the "old yellow church" must have been built about the same time that independence was declared in the United States. In 1772, Philip Heist became owner of fifty-one acres of land in Gwynedd, and it appears he gave a piece of ground and assisted in building a church upon it. He died some time after, without having given a deed to the church authorities. In his will he empowered his executors to make good and sufficient deeds to buyers of his lands. These executors granted a deed dated June 10, 1780, for half an acre of ground, declaring, "The same is intended and is hereby granted to remain for religious purposes,—that is to say, for a church of worship already erected thereon for the use of the High Dutch Lutheran and the High Dutch Reformed or Presbyterian congregations in said township of Gwynedd," etc. The first church was built between 1772 and 1780. Who the pastors were about this time the records do not show. The first pastor of whom the church has definite knowledge was Rev. Anthony Hecht, who was in charge from 1787 to 1792. His first baptism was that of an adult, Abraham Hoffman, March 4, 1787; his first infant baptism, Henry and John, sons of Christian and Anna Knipe, June 1, 1787; his first confirmation of a class of catechumens (five in number) December 25, 1788; his first administration of holy communion July 13, 1788, and eleven names are recorded as communicants. This day, July 13, 1788, is called in the records "the Day of Consecration." The first marriage record is dated October 29, 1786. First election of officers recorded is September 23, 1787.

The next pastor was Rev. Jacob Van Buskirk, beginning in 1783 and, perhaps, leaving this charge in 1797. He was born at Hackensack, N. J., February 11, 1739. It is said that Van Buskirk's work of usefulness among men closed very suddenly. One day he was about to go to his church, and while in the act of mounting his horse fell back to the ground lifeless. He died August 5, 1800, and lies buried very near where stood the altar of the church in which he officiated.

Next in the list of pastors is the name of Rev. Henry Geisenhainner. The records show that while pastor here he was married to Anna Maria Shearer by the Rev. F. W. Geisenhainner, pastor at New Goshenhoppen.

The following names come next in the list, but the length of their pastorates cannot be determined: Rev. S. P. F. Kramer and Rev. Chas. F. Wildbahn; the latter is buried at St. John's Church, Whitpain.

The next pastor was Rev. J. H. Rebenach, who commenced about 1805 and continued in charge until 1811. During his pastorate occurred the murder of Henry Weaver, which created great excitement. His entry of the burial merely states that October 5, 1805, the man was shot while behind his wagon in the vicinity of his father's house.

Next in the list are the names of Revs. David and Solomon Shaffer, but the books give no further information concerning them.

The next pastor was the Rev. John K. Weiland, whose first entry is dated June 14, 1812, and who was pastor until 1826,—fourteen years. He was the last pastor to officiate in the first church building, and during his pastorate the second church edifice was erected. The original book of subscriptions is still in existence, and is a large book of about sixty pages, kept very systematically. It is dated November 8, 1815. The managers agreed to build as soon as three thousand dollars were subscribed. The collectors were George Neavil, Jacob Kneidler, Conrad Shimmel, Joseph Knipe and Philip Lewis. We cannot tell exactly when the building was commenced or finished, but a receipt for money collected the day the corner-stone was laid bears date of "May 27, 1817." The church was large and built of stone, plastered over and stained with a yellow wash, so that in due time it came to be called the "old yellow church," like its predecessor. The interior was high and roomy, had galleries on three sides, and a high goblet pulpit with a sounding-board.

The next pastor was the Rev. George Heilig, who commenced October 22, 1826, and after the longest pastorate in the history of the church, resigned in 1843. He introduced an organ into the church. He also introduced the English language. During his time the Sunday-school was organized. He went from here to Monroe County, this State, and died September, 1869.

The next pastor was Jacob Medtart, who came in

1843 and remained until 1855. He was unable to preach German, and during his time it was dropped, and from that time to the present the services have been in the English language.

The next pastor was Rev. John W. Hassler, who came in 1856 and remained until 1862. At the outbreak of the Rebellion he received an appointment as chaplain in the army, and resigned here to accept it.

The next pastor was Rev. P. M. Rightmeyer, who commenced 1863 and continued until 1867. During his pastorate the organ now used by the Sunday-school was purchased by moneys he collected.

The next pastor was Rev. Ezra L. Reed. He was the last pastor who preached in the old church. Various circumstances suggested the building of a new church,—the old building was in a very bad state; the Reformed congregation, which had worshiped in the same building, was about erecting a building for their separate use; and the borough of North Wales had sprung up along the railroad, and many thought it an advantage to have the church in the town. It was resolved to erect a new building in the new borough of North Wales, half a mile distant, and a fine piece of ground was bought. The subscription-book bears date of March 1, 1867; corner-stone laid June 6, 1868; church was dedicated January 1, 1870, when the pastor was assisted by Revs. J. B. Riemensnyder, H. M. Bickel, G. M. Lazarus and J. A. Hassler, the last preaching the sermon. From 1786 to 1868 St. Peter's Church was connected in the same pastorate with St. John's, Centre Square. About the year 1870 this arrangement ceased, and St. Peter's selected its own pastor.

The next pastor was Rev. L. G. Miller, from June 21, 1874, to June 28, 1875. The next pastor was Rev. William H. Myers, from June 25, 1876, to February 11, 1878. The next pastor was Rev. Theodore Heilig, from May 1, 1878, to June 30, 1880.

The present pastor is Rev. George D. Foust, who took this charge July 1, 1880. During the present pastorate an oppressive debt has been paid off, and at the Easter service, 1881, the church was publicly declared free of incumbrance.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL OF ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH.—The exact date of the organization of the Sunday-school cannot be determined. It was, however, established early in the pastorate of Rev. George Heilig. Class-books are still preserved showing that the school was in full operation in 1834. The school was organized as an English school. Its first superintendent was Noah Snyder. In those days blue and red tickets were distributed as rewards among the scholars. In 1837 a library was purchased, and the names of the subscribers are carefully preserved. At this time the school numbered ten teachers and sixty scholars. The library was enlarged in 1842. About 1840, John B. Johnson became superintendent, and served in that capacity thirty years. The first public

celebration took place about 1841, which was a union festival of St. Peter's and St. John's schools, and took place in a woods near Franklinville. About 1875, Mr. A. K. Shearer was elected superintendent, and is still faithfully filling that office. I. W. Wampole, Esq., was elected secretary in 1868, and has served continuously since that date. It may be mentioned that the secretary has been absent from his post perhaps less than a dozen times, and then only on account of sickness or some other unavoidable cause. A good record this is for a term of nearly seventeen years.

THE PARISH UNION OF ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH.—In February, 1869, a Lutheran Fund Society was organized to raise moneys for church purposes. In January, 1875, it was reorganized as a Ladies' Aid Society, with the same object. In 1881 the society was changed into a "Parish Union," the object being both to gather funds for the church and to encourage sociability among the members of the congregation. Meetings are held monthly.

The officers of the church are: Pastor, Rev. George D. Foust; Elders, Jacob H. Leister, Francis Anderman, Samuel U. Brunner, Charles W. Hallman, W. W. Pope; Deacons, Francis C. Johnson, Samuel J. Fleck, Jacob Dannehower, Harry W. Moyer, John E. Ashford, A. R. Kuhns; Trustees, Abel K. Shearer, I. W. Wampole, Henry Keller.

The officers of the Sunday-school are: Superintendent (*ex-officio*), the pastor; Acting Superintendent, A. K. Shearer; Secretary, I. W. Wampole; Librarian, William Pope; Principal of Infant Department, S. U. Brunner.

The officers of the "Parish Union" are: President, the pastor; Secretary, Irwin Weber; Treasurer, Charles Weikel.

The congregation owns a fine church property in North Wales. The lot has a frontage of one hundred and sixty feet, beautifully terraced. In the centre of this lot stands a neat, commodious church edifice, whose lofty steeple can be seen from great distances in the surrounding country. In addition, the church owns two burial-grounds a short distance south of the borough, one the site of the "old yellow church," and the other directly opposite.

The North Wales Baptist Church was constituted in the winter of 1862-63 with twenty-five members, mostly from the Montgomery Baptist Church. In the summer of 1863 a brick church was erected in Gwynedd township, a short distance from Kneeder Station, which was used until the completion of the stone church edifice in the borough of North Wales, in the fall of 1884. It is forty by fifty feet, and cost five thousand dollars. The new church was dedicated in November of that year, and is still in use by the society. The pulpit was supplied by neighboring preachers until 1868, when the Rev. Maris Gibson was called to the pastorate, and served two years. Rev. Dr. William Scott succeeded, and served three

years. His successors have been the Revs. N. B. Baldwin, A. J. Adams, Josiah Phillips, L. C. Davis and the present pastor, the Rev. A. J. Aldred. The church has a membership of about one hundred and fifty.

The Reformed Church of North Wales was a part of St. Peter's Church (referred to above) until 1866, at which time the Reformed congregation erected the church edifice they now occupy in North Wales. The pastors who have served them from that time are as follows: Revs. — Aller, George Wolfe, Jonas T. Hetsell and Josiah D. Detrich, the present pastor. The membership of the church is about one hundred and fifty.

The Sanctuary Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1870, and a church edifice was erected on East Montgomery Avenue at a cost of five thousand seven hundred dollars in 1871. The pastors who have served the church are as follows: H. U. Sebring, Amos Johnson, J. D. McClintock, H. B. Manger, F. A. Gilbert, William Smith, John Martin, Harry Bodine and the Rev. Henry Hess, the present pastor. The church has a membership of about seventy.

The following is a list of burgesses of the borough of North Wales since its organization: 1869, George Schlotterer; 1870, Isaac Wampole, Jr.; 1871-72, Isaac G. Freed; 1873, Henry F. Moyer; 1874, Samuel H. Shearer; 1875, Charles G. Eaton; 1876, Hiram C. Potter; 1877, Matthias Stover; 1878-81, Daniel Kohl; 1882, Oliver M. Weber; 1883-84, Hiram C. Potter; 1885, Charles N. Weikel.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

ABEL K. SHEARER.

The Shearer family are of German descent, the orthography of the name having originally been Schearer. John Shearer, the grandfather of Abel K., was a successful farmer in Whitpain township, Montgomery Co. He married a Miss Weber, whose children were Jacob, John, Joseph, Benjamin, Jesse, Margaret (wife of Joseph Knipe), and Elizabeth, (married to Joel Sellers.) Jacob, the eldest son, was born in 1794 in Whitpain township, and followed the occupation of his father, a portion of his farm being now embraced in the borough of North Wales. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Knipe, of Gwynedd township, and had children,—Catharine (Mrs. Ephraim Neavill), Sophia (Mrs. Edward L. Jones), Euphemia, Franklin, Isabella (Mrs. George L. Brooks), Amanda (who died in youth), Eliza (Mrs. Jacob L. Weber), John, Abel K. and Mary (Mrs. H. F. Moyer).

Abel K. was born on the farm of his father, then in Gwynedd township, November 6, 1838, and received his education at the schools in the vicinity, after which

his attention, until his twenty-third year, was directed to the labor of the farm, in the cultivation of which he rendered valuable aid. He then determined to embark in commercial ventures, and established at North Wales an extensive lumber business, which he still conducts. This enterprise speedily grew to such proportions as to make the addition of a steam planing-mill, in 1870, a necessity. Mr. Shearer soon created a demand for the products of the mill, and so increased the business as to secure patronage from portions of the county far beyond the confines of the borough.

He was married, November 6, 1867, to Annie C.

ton Lodge, No. 308, of Fort Washington, Pa. In religion he is a Lutheran and member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of North Wales, as also of the church council.

ABEL LUKENS.

Abel Lukens, son of George and Esther Lukens, was born in what is now Kulpville, Montgomery Co., Pa., August 9, 1807. His early life was spent on his father's farm and at the old school-house near by, where he obtained his education. Prior to 1830 he,



A. K. Shearer

daughter of Rev. P. M. Rightmeyer. Their children are Carrie, Norman (deceased,) Estelle and Luther. Mrs. Shearer died on the 17th of June, 1877, and he was again married, on the 10th of March, 1881, to Emma J., daughter of Samuel Fleck, of Spring House, Montgomery County, Pa., whose children are Grace and Abby. While chiefly occupied in the management of his growing business, Mr. Shearer has found time to devote to local political issues. He has, as a Democrat, served in the Borough Council, as school director and in minor capacities. He is a director of the North Wales Building and Loan Association. He was identified with the Masonic fraternity as member of Washing-

ton Lodge, No. 308, of Fort Washington, Pa. In religion he is a Lutheran and member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of North Wales, as also of the church council.

In 1840 he rented the old "Golden Lamb Hotel," on Second, above Callowhill Street, Philadelphia, Pa., where he remained the popular "mine host" for fifteen years. He then retired from the hotel business, and for about one year was janitor of the National Club-house, Philadelphia; but not finding the position of janitor just suited to his taste, he rented the North Pennsylvania Hotel, then on the corner of Third and

Willow Streets, Philadelphia, and for eight years was the popular landlord of that hotel.

He then went on his farm at Kulpville, where he remained for one and a half years, when he took charge of the North Wales Hotel, where for eight years he served the traveling public with satisfaction to his patrons and to the people of the town generally.

At the expiration of that time he retired from active duty, feeling that he had served well his time in the service of the public. He owns the farm of one hundred and twenty-eight acres upon which he was born, making that his home during the sum-

September 29, 1831, married, July 17, 1856, to Robert E. Taylor, who died May 8, 1871; their son, George H., was born December 28, 1870. Infant, born November 18, 1832, died. Sarah J., born March 28, 1834, married, October 31, 1854, to David Jones; they have one daughter, Mary A., born September 9, 1864. Rachel, born July 12, 1835, married H. C. Stout in April, 1857; they have one son, Abel L. Stout, born in October, 1859. Charles J., born July 8, 1837, died young. Esther Ann, born October 5, 1839, died young. William Henry, born January 18, 1841, married, in January, 1862, to Miss Anna Little, of Philadelphia; they have two children,—Elizabeth L.,



Abel Lukens

mer months, and in winter his genial presence brings sunshine and happiness to the household of his son and daughter, in North Wales, where he is happy in the midst of a group of children and grandchildren, whose pleasant greetings smooth his pathway and lighten his burdens down the declivity of time towards the golden sunset.

He was married, in October, 1830, to Miss Naomi, daughter of John and Ann Jenkins. Mrs. Lukens died October 7, 1877, aged sixty-eight years. Mr. Jenkins, father of Mrs. Lukens, was the owner of a large portion of the land upon which the borough of Lansdale now stands.

The children of Abel and Naomi are Jane T., born

born May 22, 1863; Robert B., born July 8, 1870. George W., born February 24, 1843, married Catharine Harley in December, 1869; she was a daughter of Samuel Harley, of Kulpville; their children are Laura H., born December 20, 1870; Jennie H., born June —, 1872; Ann H., born in September, 1877. Edward, born November 27, 1846, married, June 10, 1874, to Miss Lucy A., daughter of Alexander and Josephine Riddle; she died August 16, 1881, leaving one child, Carroll T., born May 21, 1880.

The progenitor of the Lukens family in this country was Jan (John) Lucken, a native of Holland, who came to America and landed at Chester, Pa., on October 3, 1688, and subsequently settled at Germantown.

This Jan or John Lucken was, no doubt, a man of means and of some social standing, and brought to this country an old Dutch Bible, printed by Peter Sebastian in 1598, which is now one of the ancient relics owned by the Lukens family. This Jan Lucken had children,—Elizabeth, born July 28, 1684; Elias, born in 1685; William, born in 1687; Sarah, born in 1689; John, born in 1691; Mary, born in 1693; Peter, born in 1696; Hannah, born in 1698; Matthias, born in 1700; Abraham, born in 1703; Joseph, born in 1705.

Abraham, the great-grandfather of Abel, purchased, in 1729, one thousand acres of land in what is now Towamencin township, where he lived till June, 1776, when he died. The name had by this time become modernized into Lukens, and John Lukens, the second of Abraham's children, who was born Tenth Month 17, 1729, purchased from his father one hundred out of his one thousand acres, and upon this he lived until 1814. He had sold it, however, in 1805, to his son George, who occupied it until 1849. George married Esther Jeoms, of Whitemarsh township, on the Twelfth Month 12, 1805. Their children were Abel, born in 1807; Edith, born in 1809; and William Lukens; Mary, born in 1811, married Samuel Rhoads; Seth, born Third Month 20, 1814; Sarah, married C. Todd Jenkins; Hannah, married Aram Drake; Eliam, now living in Iowa; Comly, living in Illinois.

Of these children, Seth married Mary, daughter of the late James Hamer, M.D., of Skippackville, and they have children,—Fannie, married Edmund P. Zimmerman; Esther, married George W. Bockius; Anna M.; David H.; and Carrie A.

The Lukens family have been a people of more than the standard of moral and intellectual excellence, and some of them quite noted in local history. John, of Horsham township, was a government surveyor in colonial times, and also selected by the Philosophical Society to assist David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, in observing the transit of Venus in 1769 and that of Mercury in 1776.

Most of the Lukens family have in their generation been Friends or in sympathy with that society.

JONAS M. HARLEY.

Among the pious Germans who left the Fatherland with the faithful and devoted Pastorius, and came to America and settled at "ye Germantown," was Rudolph Harley, who has a son, also named Rudolph.

This Rudolph was born in Germany in 1719, as was also a daughter, who married a man by the name of Graef, and moved West.

Rudolph, Jr., married Mary, daughter of Peter Becker, of Germantown, and became the father of thirteen children, as follows: Johannes (or John), born in 1741; Johanna, born in 1743; Lena, born in

1745; Maria, born in 1747; Rudolph, born in 1749; Elizabeth, born in 1750; Jacob, born in 1752; Henry, born in 1754; Sarah, born in 1756; Samuel, born in 1758; Joseph, born in 1760; Maria Margretta, born in 1762; and Abraham, born in 1765. These numerous sons and daughters were thus intermarried: Maria, with Frederick Deihl; Rudolph, with Barbara Bach; Elizabeth, with Christian Dettra; Henry, with Elizabeth Groff; Sarah, with George Price; Samuel, with Catharine, only daughter of Christopher Sower, the old Bible printer of Germantown; Joseph, with Catharine Reiff; Maria Margretta, with Jacob Detweiler; and Abraham, with Christiana Geisz.

The Christopher Sower just mentioned was, by marriage the great-grandfather of Jonas M. Harley, and at one time owned most of the land upon which the old part of the town of Germantown is now built.

Samuel, the fifth son of Rudolph the second, and in the direct line to Jonas M., had ten children, viz.: Daniel, born in 1787; Samuel, born in 1788; Mary (mother of Abram H. Cassel, the antiquarian), born in 1789; Sarah, born in 1791; John, born in 1792; Catharine, born in 1793; Joseph, born in 1795; Elizabeth, born in 1797; Jacob; and Abraham.

Joseph Harley, the fourth son of Samuel, was born February 1, 1795; married Miss Sarah Markley, who was born January 10, 1800. Joseph died December 20, 1837, aged forty-two years, ten months and nineteen days. Sarah died May 1, 1852, aged fifty-two years, three months and twenty-two days. They were the parents of ten children, who grew to man's and woman's estate, viz.: Samuel, born May 4, 1820; Philip, born January 6, 1822; Ann, born August 8, 1823; Joseph, born June 27, 1826, died in the army; Edwin, born December 8, 1827; Deborah, born December 3, 1829; Jonas M., born September 18, 1831; John, born July 31, 1833; Sarah, born August 19, 1836; and Daniel, born April 4, 1838.

Jonas M. Harley is a native of Gwynedd township, Montgomery Co. Pa., where he received a good common-school education, partly under the instruction of his cousin, Abraham H. Cassel. At the age of fifteen years he was apprenticed to his uncle to learn the trade of a cabinet-maker, which service he successfully performed, and for ten years subsequently carried on for himself a large and prosperous business in Juniata County, Pa., where he spent thirteen years of his life. In or about the year 1859 he removed to Line Lexington, Bucks Co., Pa., where he, in partnership with his brother, John Harley, engaged in the mercantile business, in which they continued for eleven years, when they removed to North Wales, Montgomery Co., Pa., where they were also engaged in the mercantile business until March, 1884, when, with a sufficiency of earthly goods, he retired from the active duties of business life.

In whatever walk in society it has been the lot of Mr. Harley to travel he has borne well his part in

the great drama of life, having performed every known duty to the best of his ability. He has been honored by his fellow-townsmen, since a resident of North Wales, with several official positions of minor importance, and with that of school director for seven years in succession. He was, in 1858, an officer in the lower branch of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

Religiously he is a Baptist, having united with the North Wales Baptist Church, January 2, 1874, and baptized by the Rev. A. J. Adams, since which time he has been one of its office-bearers, and for the last two years one of its deacons.

Norman, born February 14, 1838; Emeline, born September 17, 1840; Amanda, born November 30, 1842.

Mr. Harley's second wife was Miss Susan C., daughter of Joseph B. and Rebecca Cassel, of Germantown. From this union there has been born one child, Florence C., born December 17, 1881.

Mrs. Harley is a descendant of the old Rittenhouse family, of astronomical fame, and closely connected with other highly-respected families of this and adjoining counties. She was born April 4, 1839, united with the Fiftieth Baptist Church of Philadelphia, Pa., December 17, 1873.



Jonas M. Harley

He was married, January 2, 1866, to Miss Emeline, daughter of Robert and Lydia Stoneback, of Bucks County. She was a member of the First Reformed Church, Dr. Willets, Philadelphia. The children from this union are Walter S., born December 10, 1867, and now a student at the Lewisburg University, Lewisburg, Pa.; Laura A., born February 27, 1870. Mrs. Harley died October 11, 1872. Her father, Mr. Stoneback, was one of the prominent men of Bucks County, and held several official positions, one of which was recorder of the county. He was also well and favorably known as one of the prominent business men of Philadelphia. His children are

Mrs. Harley was born in Norritonville, Worcester township, Montgomery Co., Pa., where her parents resided on a farm for thirty years, and in 1861 they removed to the northern part of the township, where she remained with them for seven years, at the end of which time they retired from the farming business. She then prepared herself for a teacher of music, after which she went to Philadelphia, where she was engaged in teaching music at the time of her marriage. Her father and mother are both living, the former at the advanced age of eighty years and the latter seventy-nine years of age. They are the parents of children,—Mary, Amos, Sarah, Harry, Edith,

Susan, Mahlon, Hannah, Christian and Leah. Amos died at the age of twenty-seven years, shortly after graduating from Dartmouth College, and Mary died at the age of fifty-four years.

She is now one of the active members of the North Wales Baptist Church, and the leader in its musical department, being possessed of musical talents far superior to most persons. She was early educated in music, and was but twelve years of age when she first sang before a public audience. Since that time she has been before the public as a teacher of instrumental music, and when living in Philadelphia was organist of the Fiftieth Baptist Church. She was baptized by Rev. E. C. Romine, who also performed the marriage ceremony when she married Mr. Harley.

CHAPTER XLIX.

BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN.¹

THE borough of Pottstown is situated on the north side of the Schuylkill river, below the mouth of the Manatawny Creek, twenty miles from Norristown and thirty-seven from Philadelphia. It contains an area of only two hundred and sixty-eight acres, wholly taken from Pottsgrove township on its erection to a borough in 1815, and, after Norristown, the first incorporated in the county. It is bounded north and east by Pottsgrove, south by the Schuylkill and west by Pottsgrove and the Manatawny Creek. It has a front of three-fourths of a mile on the river, and extends back from the same about half a mile. Few towns have a finer location; the land lies high and gently rolling, with plenty of room in the adjoining territory for its future growth. In its vicinity is a fertile country containing a number of fine farms, greatly improved within the last thirty years. The streets are laid out regular and wide, and cross each other at right angles. Beginning at the river and running parallel with it are the following: Laurel, Cherry, South, Queen, High, King, Chestnut, Walnut and Beech. At right angles with these, beginning near the Manatawny Creek, are York, Hanover, Penn, Charlotte, Evans, Franklin, Washington, Warren and Adams. Besides the aforesaid are several smaller streets running in various directions. High or Main Street is one hundred feet wide between the building limits, Hanover eighty feet, and the others from forty to sixty feet. The Reading turnpike is located on High or Main Street, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad on Queen, and the bridge over the Schuylkill at the foot of Hanover Street.

Pottstown, in late years, has grown rapidly. According to the census of 1830, it contained 676 inhabitants; in 1840, 721; in 1850, 1664; in 1860, 2380; in

1870, 4125 and in 1880, 5305. At the latter date the East Ward contained 1856 inhabitants; Middle Ward, 2270; and Western Ward, 1179. The assessment for 1882 returned 1845 taxables, holding \$2,744,741 of taxable property, averaging per capita \$1487. In May, 1883, licenses were issued to ten hotels, four restaurants, one brewer, two auctioneers, four real estate brokers, one banker and one hundred and twenty-six stores of various kinds. The latter is the exact number of stores licensed for the entire county in 1827. Before the Revolution the place contained two grist-mills and fifteen or twenty houses. In 1880, three taverns, a weaving establishment, a wool-hat manufactory, several mechanic shops and forty houses. In 1832, four taverns, four stores and nearly one hundred dwellings. In 1850, three hundred and twenty-eight houses, three hundred and eighty-eight families and three farms. In 1858, thirty-seven stores, seven churches, five hotels, two rolling-mills and the gas-works. The stores in 1876 had increased to ninety-four, besides three coal and two lumber-yards. In consequence of the increase of population, the borough, in 1842, was divided into East and West Wards. By an act of Assembly passed May 12, 1871, it was further divided into West, Middle and East Wards. Near the close of 1883 Middle Ward had been subdivided into Second and Third Wards, making now four wards or election districts within the incorporated limits.

The earliest material public improvement built here was the stone bridge over the Manatawny Creek, at the western end of the borough, over which the Perkiomen and Reading turnpike passes, commenced in the spring of 1804 and completed in 1806. It was built by the county while Philip Boyer, Christian Weber, Richard T. Leech, Philip Hahn, Jr., Thomas Humphrey and John Markley were commissioners. John Lewis was engineer and John Pugh and Samuel Baird did the mason-work. It has four arches, which measure one hundred and seventy-two feet. An act of Assembly permitted the county commissioners to collect toll to help defray the expense. The amount thus received in 1807 amounted to \$550.51 and the following year to \$1411.05. The lime used in this bridge was hauled, by contract, from Plymouth, twenty-two miles distant. The bridge over the Schuylkill at Hanover Street was built by a company incorporated March 5, 1819. It was commenced in 1820, and was made passable in 1821. It measures between the abutments three hundred and forty feet, is twenty-eight feet wide and eighteen feet above ordinary water-level. The total cost was nearly fourteen thousand dollars, of which sum the State subscribed three thousand dollars. It was swept away by the great freshet of September 2, 1850, and rebuilt five feet higher in 1852, at a cost of twelve thousand dollars. The Reading Railroad crosses the Manatawny a short distance below the turnpike by a substantial stone bridge of five arches, ten hundred

¹ By Wm. J. Buc's.

and seventy-one feet in length. The Madison bridge over the Schuylkill, in the lower part of Pottstown, was built by a company chartered April 5, 1867, and completed the following year. Its cost was about thirty-two thousand dollars.

The Perkiomen and Reading Turnpike Company was chartered under the acts of March 20, 1810, and February 13, 1811. The turnpike was commenced in 1811 and finished in 1815, and extends from Perkiomen bridge (now Collegeville) to Reading, a distance of twenty-nine miles. Its cost was seven thousand dollars per mile, the State subscribing to the stock fifty-three thousand dollars. The canal of the Schuylkill Navigation Company, completed in 1824, is located on the opposite side of the river.

Of the various improvements at Pottstown, none, singly, has contributed so much to the prosperity of the town as the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. The company by whom this grand work was constructed was chartered April 4, 1838. Survey^s were shortly after made, and before the lapse of another year it was placed under contract as far as this borough. On December 9, 1839, the road was opened between Philadelphia and Reading, a distance of fifty-nine miles. On this occasion the train consisted of eighty cars. It was not completed to Pottsville till January, 1842. The company have erected here several extensive machine-shops, chiefly for repairs to locomotives, cars, bridges and tracks, giving employment to some four hundred hands. On this road, from its down grade, it is no unusual thing for one locomotive to draw from one hundred to one hundred and forty cars, each containing five tons of coal. According to the engineer's report, the track here is elevated one hundred and forty-seven feet above tide-water at Philadelphia. The first ticket agent for Pottstown was James Jack, who had previously been the first toll-collector at the Manatawny bridge. The Colebrookdale Railroad is a branch of the Reading road, and extends from Pottstown, through Boyerstown, to Barto, formerly called Mount Pleasant, a distance of thirteen miles, opened to travel in the fall of 1869. The Schuylkill Valley Railroad was commenced in 1883 and was completed to Pottstown in September, 1884. It extends from Philadelphia, through Pottstown, into the coal regions, and will, no doubt, also materially contribute to the prosperity of the place in affording additional facilities for transportation.

Pottstown has become an important manufacturing place. The Pottsgrove Iron-Works belong to Potts Brothers, and went into operation in December, 1846. The rolling-mill is located on Water Street, between Penn and Charlotte; its founders were Henry and David Potts, Jr. In April, 1857, the works changed owners, and the business continued under the firm of Potts & Bailey. In October, 1862, Edward Bailey sold his interest; and the works have been operated since by the present firm. The production is plate,

boiler, tank and flue-iron. The annual capacity is sixteen thousand net tons, and they employ about one hundred and eighty hands.

The Pottstown Iron Company was incorporated March 27, 1866, and the following year permitted to increase their capital to five hundred thousand dollars. The plate-mill had originally been erected in 1863 by William Mintzer and J. E. Wooten. A nail-mill was built and put in operation in October, 1866. The Anvil Furnace was built in 1867, and in December of said year was blown in. It has a capacity to produce twenty thousand tons of mill pig-iron. The establishment has a capacity to produce twenty-four thousand tons of plate-iron and sixteen thousand tons of nails. Employment is given to from twelve hundred to thirteen hundred hands. The inclosed grounds cover twenty-five acres and are situated outside the borough limits. Theodore H. Morris, of Philadelphia, is president; Andrew Wheeler, vice-president; Joseph K. Wheeler, secretary; and William N. Morris, treasurer and general manager. Its office is in Philadelphia, 1608 Market Street.

The Warwick Iron Company, with a capital of two hundred and twenty thousand dollars, commenced their furnace in 1875, and on April 20th of the following year it was blown in. They employ sixty hands at the furnace and eighty at the mines at Boyerstown and Siesholtzville. The annual capacity is twenty-one thousand tons, having turned out as high as four hundred and sixteen tons of mill pig-iron in one week. The officers are Isaac Fegely, president; V. P. McCully, secretary; Jacob Fegely, Jr., treasurer; Edgar S. Cook, manager. This furnace is outside the borough limits, near the Manatawny bridge. The Philadelphia Bridge-Works, Joseph H. Cofrode and Francis H. Taylor, proprietors, were started in 1877, and employ about four hundred hands, and are located on South Street, outside the borough. They manufacture about seven thousand tons of bridge-iron annually. They have shipped materials to South America, Mexico, Canada and California.

Sotter & Brothers, in the northern part of the borough, carry on the manufacture of steam-boilers, stacks, tanks, etc., and do a business amounting to one hundred thousand dollars; established in 1878, and employ thirty-five men. The Keystone Agricultural Works, situated to the east of the borough, Ellis, Hoffman & Co., proprietors, manufacture agricultural implements, especially threshers and horse-powers, and employ twenty-five men. The large merchant mill of Gabel, Bartolet & Co. has a capacity to manufacture above one hundred barrels of flour per day, propelled by the Manatawny and supposed originally erected before 1730. There are, besides, three steam planing-mills in the place and several other mechanical establishments.

The Gas Company was incorporated March 7, 1856; the cost of the works up to 1858 was twenty-one thousand dollars. In 1869 the works were found to be

inadequate, and were rebuilt with four times their former capacity. They are situated in the western part of the borough, near the Schuylkill. The Market Company was incorporated April 11, 1866, and in April, 1868, their capital was increased to twenty thousand dollars. The market-house was commenced in 1867, and completed the following year at a cost of about twenty-six thousand dollars. It contains an office, upwards of fifty stalls, a large public hall and two lodge-rooms. The Water Company was chartered April 2, 1869, with an authorized capital of seventy-five thousand dollars. The works were commenced in that year and went into operation in 1870. The quantity of water consumed in 1875 was fifty-three million, nine hundred and thirty-five thousand gallons; of course, since greatly increased with the growth of the town.

The borough contains twenty-two public schools, held in nine two-story school-houses, two of which are sufficiently large for each to hold four schools. William W. Rupert and Mary Sampson are the principals of the High School. To this department is attached a fine and well-selected collection of minerals and a valuable collection of philosophical, physiological and geographical apparatus, to which additions are constantly being made. The library was established by the school board in 1875, and now contains upwards of eleven hundred volumes necessary for reference. For the school year ending with June 1, 1882, twenty-one schools were opened ten months, with an average attendance of six hundred and fifty-three pupils. For the year ending June 1, 1857, eight public schools were open only six months, and attended by three hundred and ninety-two scholars. In 1875 the number had increased to sixteen schools, with nine hundred and seventy-five scholars.

The first school-house, probably, in the place was erected by the Lutheran congregation, and continued as a subscription school until about 1841. The ground on which it stands was conveyed by a deed dated August 24, 1784, to the trustees of the church by George Gilbert and Salome, his wife. This building is still standing and used as a dwelling. An old log school-house stood on Chestnut Street, west of Hanover, and was torn down about 1856. Schools were also held at various times in private residences. In Hanover Street, near Queen, a school, designated the academy, was conducted for several years in which the higher branches were taught. In the spring of 1802, S. Chandler, A.M., was the principal, and taught English grammar, geography, elocution, Latin and French. The Rev. William Christie, of Northumberland, had charge in the spring of 1806, and, in addition to the aforesaid branches, advertised to teach Greek, Hebrew, Spanish, Italian and German, besides, history, moral philosophy and mathematics.

What was termed the Pottstown Academy stood on Chestnut Street, between Hanover and Penn, the site of which is now occupied by the Jefferson Public

School. It was built in 1834, of stone, one story high, and was a remarkably quaint-looking edifice. Public meetings, lectures, etc., were frequently held in it. It was torn down by the school board, in 1873, to make room for the present commodious structure. In consequence of the public-school system having been adopted in 1838 (by a small majority), two additional brick school-houses were built and used for this purpose, besides the academy. In 1854 the large two-story brick Streeper building was erected. Two private seminaries, in 1858, were successfully conducted here. One, the Cottage Female Seminary, commenced in 1850, of which the Rev. Robert Cruikshank was principal, and a boarding-school for boys, established in 1852 by Professor M. Meigs. The latter is now conducted by John Meigs, son of the former principal. The Pottstown Library Company, incorporated August 29, 1810, formed a library which was continued until about 1850, when it died out. The charter members of the Library Company were Samuel Baird, George Leaf, Thomas R. Brooke, Francis R. Potts, William Mintzer, John Boyer, Jesse Ives, Daniel Price, William Thompson, Thomas Baird, James Rees, Daniel Reinhart, Joseph Potts, Matthew Pearce, Israel Ortlip, James B. Harris, William Ives, Jr., and Robert McClintock. The directors for 1824 were Joseph Potts, Jesse Ives, Christian Beary, Thomas R. Brooke, Thomas Baird, John Rees and William Mintzer. Secretary, treasurer and librarian, William Baird. About 1845 another was started of which, in 1858, D. H. Keim was librarian; it then contained ten hundred and fifty volumes. This also went down about 1860. The books of the original association now form a part of the public school library.

Several secret and beneficial societies are in the borough, but none as yet occupy their own buildings. There are two lodges of Odd-Fellows, one lodge of Ancient York Masons, two tribes of the Improved Order of Red Men, two councils of United American Mechanics, one lodge of Good Templars, one camp of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America, one lodge of the Knights of Pythias, one post of the Grand Army of the Republic, one castle of the Knights of the Mystic Chain and one branch of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union. A cornet band was formed about 1854 and continues to flourish. The opera-house, in King Street, is the only hall in which concerts, etc., are given. The building was erected in 1869, seventy-five by fifty-seven feet in dimensions, and possesses stage scenery. A Young Men's Christian Association has also been recently organized.

The first house of worship supposed to have been built in Pottstown was the Friends' Meeting-house. Soon after the laying out of the place, in 1753, John Potts donated a lot of ground for this purpose, on which, no doubt, it was shortly thereafter erected. Jesse Ives, long a member, and owner of the extensive grist-mill on the Manatawny, stated in 1850 that when Washington's army was here in September 1777, the meeting-

house was used by some of the soldiers as quarters. When first seen by the writer, in 1858, it was a small one-story brick building that had been recently repaired. It was torn down in 1875 and replaced by the present building. It is in charge of the Orthodox branch of Friends, and is located on King Street, between Hanover and Penn.

We shall here pass over the Reformed and Lutheran Churches, for which there is sufficient material to form articles by themselves, which will subsequently appear. The next in order of time is Christ Episcopal Church, the congregation of which was formed in 1828 or the following year, services being conducted by the Rev. Levi Bull, Rev. George Mintzer and occasionally by others. A brick church was built on Hanover Street and dedicated January 18, 1833. In 1845 another church was erected, besides a chapel in 1867. The present beautiful red sandstone Gothic edifice was built in 1872, at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars. The Rev. Edmund Leaf was rector for some time, succeeded by the Rev. Aaron Christman, Rev. Samuel Edwards and Rev. B. McGann. Rev. Samuel F. Warren is now in charge.

The Methodist Episcopal congregation was formed in 1838, and a church erected on Main Street the following year. This was torn down, and the cornerstone of the new edifice laid in June, 1869, but was not fully finished until the close of 1871. It is a fine Gothic structure of red sandstone, two stories high, and cost twenty thousand dollars. A house and lot adjoining has been recently purchased for a parsonage. The membership is stated to be upwards of four hundred. The Rev. J. S. Hughes was appointed to this charge in the spring of 1883.

The congregation of the First Presbyterian Church was organized in May, 1848. The church was commenced in 1851 and completed in May, 1853. It is situated on the north corner of Main and Evans Streets. The first pastor was Rev. William R. Work, succeeded by Rev. Robert Cruikshank, Rev. J. C. Thompson and Rev. Henry F. Lee. The Rev. H. B. Stevenson is the present pastor. The congregation owns a parsonage in the eastern part of the town, a short distance from the borough line.

St. Aloysius' Catholic Church is situated at the northeast corner of Hanover and Beech Streets, and was built in 1856. The congregation was formed and monthly services held some time previously by Rev. A. Bailey, of Churchville, Berks Co. The Rev. Philip O. Farrell, of Phoenixville, was chiefly instrumental in securing the erection of the church. On the laying of the corner-stone the Rev. Edward Sourin preached, and at the dedication the Rev. Daniel Sheridan officiated. The Rev. John Davis succeeded as priest until September, 1858, followed by Rev. W. F. Cooke and Rev. William A. McLaughlin. The Rev. John A. Wagner has now the charge. The church lot contains an acre of ground, a part of which is appropriated to the purposes of a cemetery.

Near the beginning of 1858 a series of protracted meetings were held in Keystone Hall, under charge of the Rev. David Jeffries, of the Lower Providence Baptist Church, assisted by Rev. Hugh Barclay, of Vincent, Chester Co. The result was that fifteen males and thirty-five females were baptized in the Schuylkill in the following spring. Of that number, nineteen were heads of families, which led to an organization May 26th of that year. The church was erected in the following summer and fall, and completed in 1859. It is a handsome two-story building, forty-four by sixty feet in dimensions, and cost about four thousand dollars. Mr. Jeffries continued its pastor until his death, November 30, 1860. The Rev. N. C. Naylor has had the charge now for some time.

The Salem Evangelical Church, situated at the northwest corner of Franklin and Beech Streets, was built in 1870, the congregation having been formed the previous year. The Rev. Thomas Harper was lately pastor. The African Methodist Episcopal Church of which Rev. C. W. Boardly has charge, is located opposite the Salem Church, and was also erected in 1870. They possess a burial-ground on Beech Street, near Hanover. Pottstown in 1832, contained only two houses of worship; in 1860, eight; and in 1876 had increased to twelve, two of which belong to the Reformed and two to the Lutherans.

Several cemeteries are located in or near the borough. The most ancient is the Sprogell burial-ground, where several members of that family have been interred. It is east of the borough line and on the west side of the Reading Railroad. One stone bears the date of 1716 and another of 1718, showing that John Henry Sprogell and his family were settled here quite early. The burial-ground of the Potts family is to the rear of the Friends' Meeting-house, fronting on Chestnut Street. John Potts, the donor of the ground, was buried here, having died June 6, 1768. Some of the early residents of the place are interred here, among whom can be mentioned members of the Potts, Rutter and Hobart families. The graveyard attached to Zion's Reformed and Emanuel Lutheran Churches is next in the order of time. The earliest date here legible on a tombstone is 1770. Many of the early settlers were also interred here. The Pottstown Cemetery, to the north of the borough limits, fronts both on Hanover and Charlotte Streets, and was incorporated November 13, 1854. Through five purchases, down to the spring of 1822, the ground has been increased to twenty-six acres, and is jointly owned by the members of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches. The grounds are beautifully laid out and upwards of two thousand have already been buried here. The Edgewood Cemetery is situated to the east of the borough, and contains five acres. The company was incorporated August 21, 1866. Mount Zion Cemetery incorporated November 10, 1873, is located on the opposite side of the river, and comprises a tract of forty acres.

The post-office at Pottstown was the first established in the county, and was named Pottsgrove, which name it held until January 29, 1829, when it was changed to Pottstown. It became a Presidential office March 11, 1865. The following is a list of postmasters, as far as ascertainable, from its establishment, in 1793: Jacob Barr, December, 1793; Edward Godwin, July 1, 1795; George Pfeyer, January 1, 1808; Jacob Drinkhouse, July 1, 1808; Thomas Child, April 1, 1818; William Boyer, February 13, 1838; William Von Gezer, December 25, 1843; Tobias Sellers, January 9, 1844; Aaron L. Curtis, April 7, 1849; Thomas I. Rutter, April 22, 1853; John S. Weiler, October 1, 1860; Henry Mintzer, March 16, 1861; Davis H. Missimer, September 21, 1866; William Savage, July 1, 1868; William M. Mintzer, May 14, 1869; Alexander Malsberger, July 1, 1877. The post-office was established here near the close of 1793, and Jacob Barr appointed first postmaster, which position we know, from an advertisement of uncalled letters, he still held in the beginning of 1803. Jacob Drinkhouse was postmaster in 1816. The Bank of Pottstown was incorporated May 15, 1857, and went into operation September 14th of that year, with a capital of \$100,000. Henry Potts was elected president, William Mintzer cashier and Daniel Price teller. It was approved by the comptroller of currency as a national bank December 6, 1864. The capital was increased to \$200,000, and so remained until January 14, 1868, when it was made \$300,000. The present officers are D. R. Price, president, and Horace Evans, cashier.

The Fire Department of Pottstown comprises two steam fire-engine companies. The Good-Will No. 1, was instituted January 3, 1871, and chartered the 29th of May following. They possess a steamer, hose-carriage and all the necessary apparatus. The Philadelphia Fire-Engine Company was incorporated August 21, 1871. They have a Silsby rotary steam fire-engine, which cost four thousand five hundred dollars, a hose-carriage, etc. In addition there is also the Empire Hook-and-Ladder Company, No. 1, of which Henry Whartenby is president.

Two daily and two weekly newspapers are published in the place. The *Pottstown Ledger* is published daily and weekly by L. H. Davis and W. J. Binder. Its daily publication was commenced October 1, 1873. The *Morning Chronicle* is also published daily and weekly by A. R. Saylor & Brother. It commenced its career as a daily in the fall of 1879. These are well-conducted papers and a credit to the place. To L. H. Davis we are partly indebted for an account of the papers published here in the past. The first, it appears, was the *Pottstown Times*, issued July 1, 1819, by John Royer. Its size may be judged, as it had but four columns to a page. The *Lafayette Aurora*, with five columns to a page, was published by Daniel Glackens and Joshua Keely in the spring of 1824. In 1828 Mr. Royer started a German paper called *Der Advocat*. Mention is made in "Gordon's Gazetteer" of the *Amer-*

ican Star being published here about 1831. After being issued several years, the *Times* was changed to the *Pottstown Journal*, of which J. C. Slemmer became proprietor; it was merged into the *Montgomery Ledger* in 1843. Mr. Davis became one of the proprietors in 1855, associating with him as partner, in 1866, Mr. Binder. Within the last half-century several other papers have been published here. Robert D. Powell started the *Anti-Abolitionist*; S. D. Patterson, the *Rural Visitor*; J. S. Wheeler and P. Keen, the *Pottstown Democrat*, in 1855; G. W. Vernon and Hiram Brower, the *Pottstown Tariffite*, from 1842 to 1845. In October, 1874, the *Pottstown Advertiser* was started by D. Q. Geiger.

No doubt public-houses existed here some time before the Revolution. The "Rising Sun" tavern, whose history goes back at least to 1776, stood at the southeast corner of Main and York Streets. Jacob Witz was licensed to keep it as a public-house in 1779. Jacob Barr, the first postmaster of Pottstown, kept it for a number of years. In the fall of 1806 he advertised the property at private sale, and then stated that it had been kept for thirty years as a tavern, and that the Reading mail-stage for Philadelphia stopped there four times every week. This subsequently became one of the most noted stage-stands in the upper part of the county. Respecting Jacob Barr in this connection, we may state that he was appointed the first steward of the Montgomery County poor-house, and is known to have held this position until 1816, and one account states until his death, in 1819. The Rising Sun was owned and kept by John Boyer until 1844 or the following year, when he was succeeded by Barnet Weand. It was a frame building and was torn down 1865. There is a tradition that Washington stopped at this house in September, 1777, and in 1794, while on his way to suppress the Whiskey Insurrection. Opposite this stand, near the beginning of this century, was also a public-house, whose sign was the "Swan," afterwards changed to "Washington," and later the "Farmers' Hotel."

Before the introduction of railroads for traveling purposes, stage lines did an important business, more than can now be well realized. In 1794 the Reading stage started from the "White Swan," in Race Street, Philadelphia, on Wednesdays and Fridays, the fare being two dollars. Tradition states that this line in its upward trip remained overnight in Pottstown. A stage left Hayes' Inn for Pottsgrove every Wednesday at sunrise, in 1802. William Coleman, in 1804, became the proprietor and driver of the Reading mail-stage, starting from the "White Swan" every Tuesday and Friday, passing through Norristown, Trappe and Pottsgrove. Mr. Coleman put on an extra line in the summer of 1811, leaving John Boyer's "Rising Sun" tavern every Tuesday morning at six o'clock, and arriving in Philadelphia in the evening, returning from the "White Swan" on Thursday mornings at the same hour, and reaching Pottsgrove or

Pottstown in the evening; fare, \$2.25. In 1830 the Reading and Pottsville stages arrived daily, leaving the city at four o'clock A.M. A tri-weekly stage line was established in 1828, starting from the Union Hotel, in this place, to Kimberton, by which route passengers could also proceed to Philadelphia or to Lancaster, Pittsburgh and the West.

The earliest information we possess respecting this section of the country is derived from a map in Gabriel Thomas' "Account of Pennsylvania," published at London in 1698. The Manatawny Creek in its whole course, with its several branches, is represented with tolerable accuracy to where it empties into the Schuylkill, thus proving at this early date that this vicinity must have been already pretty well explored. William Penn conveyed, October 25, 1701, to his son, John Penn, a tract of twelve thousand acres of land, which the latter sold, June 20, 1735, to George McCall, a merchant of Philadelphia, for the sum of two thousand guineas. On a resurvey it was found to contain fourteen thousand and sixty acres. This purchase comprised all Douglas township, nearly the upper half of Pottsgrove and about one-third of the northwestern portion of the present territory of Pottstown.

Adjoining the aforesaid purchase on the east was that of the Frankfort Land Company, containing twenty-two thousand three hundred and seventy-seven acres, surveyed October 13, 1701, which was afterwards claimed by John Henry Sprogell, who came over from Holland by invitation of William Penn, and settled here with his family on a tract of land containing six hundred and thirty acres, upon which most of the borough is now located. From a road petition we know that he must have resided here before 1709, and, therefore, is entitled to the claim of having been the pioneer settler. Thomas Rutter, Sr., of Germantown, the ancestor of the family of this name, established iron-works and a forge on the Manatawny Creek, it is supposed, as early as 1717, about two miles and a half from the Schuylkill. This improvement invited further settlement. Thomas Potts, Jr., came hither from Germantown several years later, and also entered into the manufacture of iron. After the death of Mr. Rutter, in March, 1729, his sons and Mr. Potts became the principal proprietors of the business in this section.

John Potts, the eldest son of Thomas, on the death of his father, purchased, September 8, 1752, of Samuel McCall, son of the former proprietor, a tract of nine hundred and ninety acres, which, with his previous purchases, made him the owner, probably, of all the land in and around the borough. He now removed from Colebrookdale, and commenced, in 1753, the building of a large, substantial two-story stone mansion, still standing on the west side of the Manatawny Creek, which at the time was regarded with wonder by the people residing throughout this part of the country. It is now owned by Henry and Jacob Gabel, and about ten years ago was converted into Mill Park Hotel. Mr.

Potts, the following year, proceeded to lay out the town on the east side of the Manatawny, in the townships of New Hanover and Douglas. The former had been erected in 1724 and the latter in 1736. The boundary between the two can be pretty nearly established by continuing a direct southwest line from the intersection of Charlotte and Beech Streets to the Schuylkill. To the antiquary this line possesses considerable interest in determining early localities in the townships mentioned previous to the formation of Pottsgrove, in 1806.

To John Potts the credit is due of having laid out the streets of the town so regularly and at right angles, after the plan of Philadelphia. He took all possible means to promote the growth of the place, in the sale of building lots on favorable terms, giving employment and donating grounds, for two houses of worship and for burial purposes. Yet, with all his remarkable exertions, and enterprise, the place at his death, in 1768, did not probably exceed twelve or fifteen houses. In the laying out here of a road in November, 1766, mention is made of its beginning at "Pottstown Ferry" and passing "through John Potts' land by the division line of New Hanover and Douglass," on through lands of William Mayberry, deceased, to the Bucks County line. If this road was afterwards opened, it must have commenced here at the foot of Hanover and passed out of the present borough on Charlotte Street. This confirms the fact of a ferry having then been established here over the Schuylkill. In the *Gentleman's Pocket Almanac* for 1769 the distances of several places are denoted on the road to Reading, among which is mentioned "to Potts', thirty-eight miles." On William Scull's map of the province of Pennsylvania, published in 1770, the place is also denoted thereon as "Potts T.," thus showing that even at this early date it was known by its present name.

In the Revolution the place contained a public-house, one or two mills, at least one house of worship and probably twenty dwellings. The battle of Brandywine was fought September 11, 1777, and resulted disastrously to the Americans. The next day Washington and his army proceeded to Germantown, and after resting and refreshing the men one day, returned over the Schuylkill with the intention of giving another battle to General Howe. Near the Warren tavern they met, and owing to a severe storm and a heavy fall of rain a general engagement was prevented. The British then moved to Swedes' Ford, but beholding the entrenchments thrown up there on the opposite side to dispute the passage, proceeded up the Schuylkill to the vicinity of Valley Forge, which led Washington to believe that their object was to capture the military and other stores that had been collected at Reading. This now induced him to cross on the 19th to this side the Schuylkill at Parker's Ford, five miles below Pottsgrove, and proceed down to the Trappe. At the latter place, Timothy Pickering states in his journal, "we halted a day or two, when hearing the enemy were tending upwards on the western side of the river, we

moved on the other, till we arrived at our camp near Pottsgrove. Here we lay till the 26th, on which day we marched downwards as far as Pennypacker's Mills. While we lay near Pottsgrove the enemy crossed over the Schuylkill, but it was two or three days before they entered the city, which was fortunate for us, as it gave time to our people at Philadelphia to complete the removal of stores."

From General Muhlenberg's orderly-book it is ascertained that the army did not arrive near Pottsgrove until the evening of September 22d. On this day orders were given to "the clothier-general immediately to distribute all the clothing and shoes in his possession." The result of this was that Washington, in a letter to Congress, dated "Camp near Pottsgrove, September 23d," states that he had "early this morning received intelligence that they had crossed the fords below. Why I did not follow immediately I have mentioned in the former part of my letter; but the strongest reason against being able to make a forced march is the want of shoes. Messrs. Carroll, Chase and Penn, who were some days with the army, can inform Congress in how deplorable a situation the troops are for the want of that necessary article. At least one thousand men are barefooted, and have performed the marches in that condition." On this day general orders were issued that "each regiment is to proceed in making cartridges for its own use, that may be held in store. General Knox will furnish them with materials. It is expected, as the weather is now growing cool, that the troops will never have less than two days' provisions by them." On the 25th a general court-martial was held for the immediate trial "of all persons who may be brought before them." The orders were on the morning of the 26th to march at nine o'clock, and that afternoon found them encamped on the hills of the Perkiomen, near the present village of Schwenksville.

From what has now been stated, it will be observed that Washington and his army were encamped in this vicinity from the evening of September 22d until the morning of the 26th, making all of three days and four nights. From Jesse Ives' relation in 1850, some of the soldiers while here had been quartered in the Friends' Meeting-house. Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg, who resided at the Trappe, states, in his journal, under date of September 23d, that "the main body of the American army is up in New Hanover, thirty-six miles distant from the city, as it was supposed the British troops would go up the Schuylkill to Reading." The inference of this is that the main body of Washington's army while here was encamped below Pottsgrove, very probably where Sprogell's Run crosses the Philadelphia road, which would be about the distance mentioned from the city, and then in the township.

About the close of the Revolution, General Arthur St. Clair having purchased one of the confiscated properties of John Potts, Jr., one of the justices of the courts, he removed hither and made it his residence

about 1783, when he held the office of member of the State council of censors. While here he was elected to Congress, November 2, 1785, and made president of that body February 2, 1787, which position he held until the expiration of his term, the following 28th of November. In 1786 he became a member of the American Philosophical Society, in Philadelphia. He was appointed Governor of the Northwestern Territory February 1, 1788, to which he shortly after removed. His stone mansion and lot, sixty by three hundred feet, was sold by Isaiah Wells, sheriff, January 1, 1803. The advertisement states it to be situated in "Pottstown, Douglass township." He was fortunate enough to be nearly a life-long holder of offices, frequently filling several at one time, but he had few business qualifications.

In accordance with the recommendation of the President of the United States, the citizens of Pottstown and vicinity assembled January 13, 1800, to pay their tribute of respect to the memory of General Washington, who had died in the previous month. A bier, with a coffin, was carried in the procession, followed by Captain McClintock's company of infantry and several other military and civil organizations, who proceeded to the old Brick Church, where a funeral sermon was preached in English by the Rev. John Armstrong, of the Episcopal Church, and in German by Rev. L. F. Herman, of the Reformed congregation. The pallbearers on this occasion were David Potts, William Mayberry, William Potts, Robert E. Hobart and Robert May.

The elections of Limerick and parts of Douglas and New Hanover, by an act of Assembly passed April 8, 1799, were ordered to be held at the public-house of George Pflieger, of this town, and were so continued until 1807. In October, 1802, the district polled 271 votes. In 1824 the elections for Pottsgrove township and Pottstown were held at the house of Augustus C. Rutze, in the latter place. In 1838 they were held at the house of Samuel Smith, and this continued until changed by the Constitution of 1839.

In 1810 Pottsgrove is represented to have contained about forty dwellings, three taverns, a brewery, a weaving establishment, a wool-hat manufactory, two shoemaker-shops, two houses of worship, a grist-mill and several stores and shops. In June, 1803, Christian Willauer advertised that he had "lately moved here, and keeps a general assortment of drugs and medicines, wholesale and retail. Is well acquainted in the practice of physic, rheumatism, bleeding and drawing teeth." Peter Richards, in September, 1807, advertised at private sale "a valuable tan-yard and five lots of ground in Pottstown, each three hundred feet deep, or any quantity up to fifty acres, whereof one-third is watered meadow." Israel Bringham, John Jacobs and Joseph Tyson were appointed commissioners to erect the township of Pottsgrove from parts of Douglas and New Hanover. They made in their report in August, 1806, to the Court of Quarter Sessions, who

confirmed it the 20th of that month, and thus was added one more township to the county.

Pottstown was incorporated a borough by an act of Assembly passed February 6, 1815. Its boundaries were then fixed as follows:

"Beginning at a stake on the northern bank of the river Schuylkill; thence through Jacob Leshner's land, north 25 degrees east 100 perches, to a post on the east side of the road leading to the Manatawny ford on the Schuylkill to Glasgow; thence by the east side of the said road, north 15 degrees west 47 perches, to Beech Street; thence by Beech Street and on the line dividing the lands of the estate of the late Mary Jones, deceased, from the land of Mary Graham, David Rutter, the estate of Clifford Smith, deceased, and Joanna Potts, south 80 degrees east 225 perches, to a stake in a line of Peter Richard's land; thence through Peter Richard's land south 58 degrees east 63 perches, to a post, and south 24 degrees west 111 perches, to a post corner of Jacob Hubly's land from Peter Richard's land, south 41 degrees 30 minutes, west 83 perches to the river Schuylkill; thence up the said river, the several courses thereof, 268 perches to the place of beginning."

The charter required the borough elections to be held on the second Tuesday in April of every year. Any person elected to the office of burgess, member of Council or high constable, and who, having received notice thereof, should refuse or neglect to take upon himself the due performance of the office to which he has been elected, was required to forfeit and pay the sum of ten dollars. No person, however, to be compelled to serve more than one year in any term of four years. Under authority of an act of Assembly passed March 19, 1828, commissioners were appointed by the court, under whose directions Thomas Burd was employed in the following September to make a complete survey of the borough, and to prepare a draft therefrom on a scale of two hundred feet to the inch, a copy of which has been placed on file in the clerk of the court's office.

The first borough election was held at Pottstown the first Tuesday in April, 1815, when Robert McClintock was elected burgess, and John Heister, Jacob Leshner, William Leshner, Jesse Ives, Henry Boyer, William Mintzer and Thomas P. May were elected Councilmen. The minutes of the Council from 1815 to July, 1819, are missing, though careful search has been made for them. From 1819 to 1823 no mention is made as to who was elected burgess. From warrants to collectors and other sources it is ascertained that Jacob Hubley was burgess in 1820-21. The record of burgesses, as ascertained from official sources, is as follows:

1815, Robert McClintock; 1816-19, not known; 1820-21, Jacob Hubley; 1822, not known; 1823, Jacob Leshner; 1824-25, William Mintzer; 1826, Augustus C. Rutze; 1827, Joseph McKean Potts; 1828, William Mintzer; 1829, John Thompson; 1830, Andrew Eckert; 1831, Jesse Ives; 1832-34, Jesse Kline; 1835-39, William Mintzer; 1837, George Richards; 1838, Henry Potts; 1839, Jonas Smith; 1840-43, John Thompson; 1844-46, John S. Weiler; 1847-48, Aaron L. Custer; 1849, John Thompson; 1850-52, John C. Smith; 1853, Leshner Van Buskirk; 1854, D. M. Root; 1855, Hiram C. Feger; 1856, William Ellis; 1857, Lewis H. Davis; 1858, Ephraim Hartman; 1859, Joseph E. Yeager; 1860, Hiram C. Feger; 1861-62, Samuel S. Daub; 1863, David P. Crosby; 1864-68, John A. Andre; 1869-71, Joseph E. Yeager; 1872, Alexander Malsberger; 1873, Louis B. Byar; 1874, Isaac Hoyer; 1875-76, M. S. Longaker; 1877-79, Henry G. Kulp; 1880, Dr. Jacob H. Scheetz; 1881-82, George B. Lessig; 1883-85, William B. Bach.

Among the aged and remarkable men now living in Pottstown may be mentioned John Thompson, of whom the writer has secured several interesting reminiscences. He was born here February 11, 1799, his parents being William and Mary Thompson. In 1823 he was elected a member of the Borough Council; burgess in 1829, 1840-43 and 1849; appointed a justice of the peace in 1833; elected to the Assembly in 1857 and the following year to the State Senate. He was for several years a director of the Pottstown Bank and late president of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He is still vigorous for his age, and possesses a retentive memory. Before the construction of the canal and navigation he made a voyage in one of the "Reading" or river boats to Philadelphia, concerning which we have received from him the following particulars: These were long, open boats, generally used for carrying flour and sometimes iron and other products. He was taken a passenger as a matter of accommodation. When the river was high, a trip from Reading to Philadelphia could be made between sunrise and sunset. The boatmen made no use of sails, but in calm water plied their oars. In returning, the boats, at many places, to stem the current, had to be moved by poles shod with iron points. Their usual cargoes consisted of from one hundred and fifty to two hundred barrels of flour. Mr. Thompson has resided nearly the whole of his life in Pottstown, and is now one of the very few men living that have made such a voyage, on which occasion, as more expeditious, he returned by stage. This was probably about 1817. He read the Declaration of Independence at celebrations in Pottstown in 1826 and in 1876.

The Reformed Congregations in Pottstown.—In looking over material that has been brought together on this subject, it is found no easy matter to know where and how to begin, the accounts being somewhat conjectural and contradictory, and the long association of the Reformed Church with the Lutherans, renders the task more difficult when one is disposed to treat them separately. These remarks are offered in apology for our liability to be led thereby into error. The Reformed denomination was no doubt an early one in this vicinity. Rev. John Philip Leydich, who had charge of a congregation at the Swamp between the years 1747 and 1760, also attended to one here, as it was but five miles distant. We know by Nicholas Scull's map published in 1759, that they had a church at the former place before that date, as it is denoted thereon.

John Potts, on the laying out of the town in 1753, donated to the Germans a lot of ground expressly for a church and for burial purposes. When the log church was erected here is not known; the earliest legible date found on a tombstone is 1770. It may have been possible that it was erected as a small log building before the Revolutionary war, for in 1796 it had gone so far to decay that a book was opened

February 23, 1796, and £1554 10s. 5d. (\$4420) subscribed for a new church. This determined the two congregations (for the Lutherans had been associated with them from the beginning) to erect a new, commodious and substantial brick building, which had been so advanced that it was consecrated before the end of said year. It is still standing and has long been known as the Union or Zion's Church. The estimate for building was considerably exceeded, for the cost amounted to about six thousand dollars, and it was not until 1807 that it was all paid off.

The ministers of the Swamp or New Hanover congregation being the nearest, it formed for a considerable time a part of their charge. After Leydich, Rev. Nicholas Pomp attended from 1765 to 1783, Rev. Frederick Dillecker (De la Cour) from 1784 to 1799, whose earnest and laborious efforts materially contributed to the erection of the new church. The Rev. Frederick Herman succeeded in 1800 and continued until his death, in 1848; however, a short time before he was assisted and followed by his son, Rev. L. C. Herman. The preaching was exclusively confined to the German language until 1848, when Rev. N. S. Strassburger formed an English congregation. This led, for the use of the latter, to the building of Trinity Reformed Church, which was commenced in the spring of 1866, under the pastoral charge of Rev. J. H. Dubbs. It is a fine Gothic edifice, built of red sandstone, located at the corner of Hanover and King streets. The Rev. L. K. Evans is pastor.

In July, 1871, the Lutheran congregation now composing Emanuel Church sold out their interest in Zion's Church, and so from that date the Reformed have retained the ownership. This is now the oldest house of worship in Pottstown. The services are still exclusively confined to the German. The Rev. C. T. Herbst was succeeded in July, 1884, by Rev. C. S. Wicand. In 1872 the church was remodeled and put in good repair. Respecting this church, George Missimer, who was born in 1792, related that in his boyhood he came here to worship barefoot and that most of the men were without their coats. What is remarkable, no fire for heating purposes was used in this church in winter until 1812, when Mrs. Joanna H. Potts, widow of Samuel Potts, presented the congregation with stoves for this purpose.

The Lutheran Congregations in Pottstown.—The German Lutheran congregation at New Hanover is regarded as the oldest in America, its first pastor, Justus Falkner, having come there in 1703. He was ordained for this purpose by Andries Rudman, the Swedish provost at Philadelphia. In 1717 the Rev. Gerhard Henkel settled there. From March, 1720, to October, 1723, they were frequently visited by Rev. Samuel Hesselius, from Morlatton. In 1732 Rev. John Christian Schultze became pastor, and in the following year was sent to Europe by the congregations to secure aid in the erection of churches and

additional pastors. It has been supposed that Rev. John Nicholas Kurtz, Rev. Frederick Schaum and Rev. Jacob Van Buskirk may have first preached at stated times in Pottstown. This will go to show that the Lutherans at this early date were already possessed of some strength throughout this section.

After the laying out of the town, in 1753, John Potts donated lot No. 89, located on Hanover Street and extending from Chestnut to Walnut, to be used as a burial-place and for the erection of a house of worship. The first log church, it is supposed, was erected here before October, 1772, but the ground had been used some years previously for burial purposes. Not long after that date the Rev. John Ludwig Voigt held stated services in Pottstown. It is probable that his visits were not very frequent until 1776, as he had, until then, no relief from the cares of his other congregations. Owing to the war, the Rev. Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg left New York and took charge of New Hanover, in the place of Mr. Voigt, who removed to Zion's Church, in Chester County. The former devoted more time to the congregation, to whom he preached once a month. Both Mr. Voigt and Muhlenberg speak of a church here.

From the earliest records existing we learn that in 1777 the elders and deacons were George Gilbert, Sebastian Keck, John Fritz, Henry Eckel, John Schoener and John Balde. In 1779, Christopher Schoener and Christian Lessig; 1782, Jacob Yocum, Andrus Schoener; 1785, Bartholomew Wambach, Andreas Missimer; 1788, Cassimer Missimer. The congregation in 1782 took measures for the erection of a school-house on lot No. 95, for which they received a deed dated August 24, 1784, from George Gilbert and Salome, his wife, and John Fritz and John Schoener, in trust for the use of the "Evangelical Lutheran congregation of Pottstown." In that house subscription schools were taught until 1841, since when it has been used as a dwelling, and is still standing at the southeast corner of Penn and Walnut Streets. In 1796 the early log church had gone so far to decay that it was proposed, in connection with the Reformed congregation, who had also held worship therein, to build a more substantial and commodious brick edifice, for which the sum of four thousand four hundred and twenty dollars was subscribed, and which was consecrated and finished within said year. At its completion the cost amounted to six thousand dollars, and it required nearly eleven years' efforts before it was all paid off. The Lutherans being decidedly the strongest, defrayed three-fourths of the expense. The new church at the time was considered a fine structure, very few in the county at that time surpassing it, as may be judged from its cost.

At the building of the new church Mr. Voigt had again become pastor, a position he retained until June, 1799, when Rev. John F. Weinland became his suc-



D. H. Kepner

cessor to the close of 1806. In May, 1807, Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer became pastor, and remained until 1808. Rev. Peter Hecht had charge from 1809 to 1813, followed by Rev. J. E. L. Brouns, who remained until the close of 1815. After Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, in May, 1823, Rev. Conrad Miller succeeded. In 1833 the Synod held its first meeting in Pottstown, thirty-five pastors and twenty-three lay delegates being present; services in English were also held, which produced a desire to have that language introduced. At this time the pastor had seven congregations in charge and conducted worship here once in four weeks. Rev. Conrad Miller proposed to the congregation, in April, 1834, to take measures to secure services in English at stated times. In accordance with



NEW HANOVER LUTHERAN CHURCH.

this request, Rev. John W. Richards accepted the call, and preached his introductory sermon May 18, 1834. He held the pastorate until the spring of 1836, when Rev. Jacob Wampole, of the Trappe, succeeded, and continued until his death, in the beginning of 1838. Rev. Henry S. Miller had charge from April, 1838, until August 20, 1848. In 1844 a second Synod was held here, fifty-three pastors being present.

In the summer of 1848, Rev. Conrad Miller transferred the care of the German congregation to his nephew, Rev. George F. Miller, who also became pastor of the English portion on the resignation of Rev. H. S. Miller. In 1859 the members of the latter resolved on the erection of a new church, the corner-stone of which was laid August 5, 1859, and it was consecrated February 16, 1861, on which occasion the Rev. J. A. Seiss delivered the sermon. In the act of incorporation it is styled "The English Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Transfiguration," situated at the southwest corner of Hanover and Chestnut Streets. It is a handsome, large, two-story brick edifice, and cost twelve thousand and fifty

dollars. The Rev. George F. Miller remained pastor until the spring of 1868, succeeded by Rev. G. W. Schmucker until the fall of 1870. In June, 1871, Rev. Charles Koerner became pastor, who was succeeded in the spring of 1881 by the Rev. B. M. Schmucker, D.D., who is still in charge.

Owing to the increase of membership and a desire to have more frequent services, the congregation sold out their interest in the Old Brick or Union Church to the Reformed members in May, 1871. An act of incorporation was obtained under the name and title of the "German and English Evangelical Lutheran Emanuel Church." They had reserved for their use one-half of the ground, one hundred and fifty by one hundred and eighty feet in extent at the corner of Hanover and Walnut Streets. The church was commenced thereon May 30, 1871, and was dedicated September 28 and 29, 1872. Its dimensions are ninety-nine and a half feet long by sixty-three feet wide and it cost thirty-three thousand dollars, possessing the largest membership of any church in the place. The Synod met in Pottstown in 1864, when ninety-two ministers were present; again in 1873, with one hundred and forty-four ministers; and in 1881, with one hundred and seventy-six ministers present. The officers and teachers of the Sabbath-school belonging to the church in 1882 numbered fifty and the scholars six hundred and seventy-six. While the church was building the Rev. Wm. G. Laitzle had charge; Rev. D. K. Kepner is the present pastor. In the preparation of this article acknowledgments are due to Dr. Schmucker for information derived from his interesting pamphlet, entitled "The Lutheran Church in Pottstown," published in 1882, and also to Mark H. Richards, Esq., relative to the borough.

REV. D. K. KEPNER is a descendant of one of the first settlers by this name in the upper end of Montgomery County. Andreas Kepner paid quit-rent to the proprietary of Pennsylvania for one hundred acres of land prior to 1734 (see Rupp's collection of names, etc., page 473). His farm was situated on the road leading from Pottstown to Falkner Swamp, near the latter place. He died in 1766, aged sixty-five years, William Kepner, his son, having lived and died on an adjoining farm. Henry, the son of William, resided on another farm, where his son William, father of Rev. D. K. Kepner, was born, and died on a farm near by Fegleysville, so that Andreas¹, William², Henry³ and William⁴ lived and died in Montgomery County. All were members of the Lutheran Church at New Hanover, and are buried in the graveyard of the church. All of them followed agricultural pursuits. The subject of this sketch is a son of William Kepner and Sarah Koch, his wife. He was born October 15, 1836, baptized and confirmed by Rev. Conrad Miller in the same church, and, subsequently, also married in the same to Lydia A. Brendlinger, daughter of Frederick Brendlinger, of Swamp. He was reared on the farm and accustomed to hard work, his

school advantages having been very limited in his younger days. When he arrived at the age of eighteen years his father gave him the choice of a trade or attendance at an advanced school for two winters. He chose the latter, and became a pupil for two sessions of the Washington Hall Boarding-School. He entered Frederick Institute the succeeding winter, and remained during three sessions. The next four winters he taught a public school, in the mean time preparing for college, and entered the sophomore class of Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pa., in the fall of 1861, having the ministry in view. In the fall of 1862 he enlisted in the service of the United States as regimental quartermaster of the One Hundred and Seventy-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, subsequently re-enlisting in the One Hundred and Ninety-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was mustered out at the end of the war as first lieutenant in charge of Company A, and returned to college in the fall of 1865, graduating August 8, 1867. Mr. Kepner entered the "Theological Seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church," at Philadelphia, September, 1867, and graduated from this institution June 8, 1870, being ordained a minister of the gospel, June 15, 1870, by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, thus having gained the object of his aspirations for the previous ten years. He supplied the Orwigsburgh charge, in Schuylkill County, during the winter of 1870-71, and accepting a call to Slatington, Lehigh Co., Pa., entered upon the work May 12, 1871. He organized a new congregation at Leighton, Carbon Co., Pa., and built a church, serving the same in connection with Slatington and Pennsville. Mr. Kepner accepted a call to Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church of Pottstown, Montgomery Co., and began his labors January 1, 1875, having just completed his tenth year as pastor of this church. The congregation is one of the oldest and the largest in membership, worshiping in the most spacious church edifice in Montgomery County. The summary of Mr. Kepner's pastoral work during the ten years is as follows: Baptized, infants, 1005, adults, 58; confirmed, 544; added by transfer from other congregations, 488; total added, 1037; funerals, 671; married, 311; communicated, 16,945. The largest number of members communed in one year (1884) was 1054. He has preached 1360 regular and funeral sermons, made 1371 addresses, and was unable to preach by reason of indisposition, only five Sundays during the ten years. In the last four years he has not missed a Sunday in the church nor Sunday-school.

During a ministry of fifteen years Mr. Kepner always trained the choir of the church and the Sunday-school in the service of song and led the same in addition to his work as pastor. The statistics already given may indicate to some extent the work accomplished by Mr. Kepner while in the ministry. He is firmly intrenched in the hearts of his people and holds an influential position in the denomination which he represents.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

RUFUS B. LONGAKER.

Peter Longaker, the father of Rufus B., was a native of Lawrenceville, Chester Co., Pa., where he was born on his father's farm March 14, 1786, and died November 1, 1866, in Limerick township. He married Hannah, daughter of George and Mary Boyer, who was born in Churchville, Hereford township, Berks Co., Pa., September 1, 1795, and survived until her ninetyeth year. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Longaker six children,—Rufus B., Mary (Mrs. Abram Kohl, deceased), Louisa (Mrs. Sebastian Kohl), Emeline, John B. and Francis Elmira (deceased). Rufus B., the eldest of this number, whose birth occurred in Limerick township (where his father then resided) on the 6th of April, 1816, at the age of sixteen became a pupil of the Trappe Boarding-School. On completing his course of study he removed to Berks County and engaged in teaching, which pursuit was continued for two winters. He was for one year clerk in a country store at the Trappe, and soon after embarked in mercantile pursuits at Crooked Hill, Pottsgrove township, Montgomery Co., remaining at this point from 1840 until 1851. Having been in that year elected recorder of deeds, he removed soon after to Norristown, and remained for three years the incumbent of the office. Returning to Pottstown in 1855, he engaged in the purchase and sale of cattle and horses, continuing the business for several years. He was, in 1863, the successful candidate for county treasurer, having received the Democratic nomination for the office, and served in that capacity for two terms, meanwhile retaining his home in Pottstown. In 1862, under the firm-name of Longaker & Van Buskirk, he embarked in the wholesale wine and liquor business, in which he was succeeded by his son, Montgomery S. Longaker. Mr. Longaker was an influential member of his party, and at various times delegate to Democratic State conventions. For three years he served as member of the Borough Council of Pottstown. He was for many years in the board of management of the Union Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Company of Montgomery County, as also manager of the Reading and Perkiomen Turnpike Company. He was a devout member of Trinity Reformed Church of Pottstown. Mr. Longaker was married, in 1842, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Abram Smith, of Pottstown. Their children are Montgomery S., Hannah E. (Mrs. Matthias Geist), Horace S., Mary (Mrs. William H. Thomas), Lewis C. (of Bradford, Pa.) and two who are deceased. Mr. Longaker enjoyed a reputation for integrity and promptness in all his business dealings. Possessing sound judgment and a mind that grasped quickly the details of business, he was frequently consulted upon matters involving important issues. He was exten-

sively acquainted with public men throughout the State, and enjoyed the confidence and friendship of many persons in high official position. The death of Mr. Longaker occurred after a life of great activity and usefulness on the 26th of September, 1882.

JONAS SMITH.

Jonas Smith, the eldest son of Henry and Mary Smith, was born in New Hanover township, Montgomery Co., Pa., March 15, 1806. After the usual period at school he learned the trade of a carpet-weaver, but

Smith retired therefrom. Mr. Smith manifested in his earlier life a lively interest in military affairs, and for some years served as captain of a volunteer cavalry company, known as the Third Troop of Montgomery County, which participated in the State Military encampment in 1841, held at Pottstown. He was at various times a member of the Borough Council and board of school directors of Pottstown, and was elected chief burgess of the borough in 1839. In the fall of 1841 he was made treasurer of Montgomery County, being the first county treasurer *elected* to that office. He was re-elected in 1842, and filled the term



W. H. Smith

soon abandoned it for the more congenial pursuit of a merchant. Entering a store at the Swamp as clerk, he later purchased and for several years conducted this enterprise. During the fall of 1837 he made Pottstown his residence, and there engaged in business in various localities in the borough. In 1840 he removed to a farm in Pottsgrove township, but remained for a brief time only, resuming again his mercantile ventures in connection with his brother, William H. Smith, under the firm-name of J. & W. H. Smith. The firm subsequently became Smith & Hartrauft, and was continued until 1855, when Jonas

with great acceptance. He was for nearly forty years treasurer of the Pottstown Mutual Fire Insurance Company, was a manager of the Schuylkill Bridge Company for more than thirty-five years and for several years director of the Bank of Pottstown. He was also treasurer of the Pottstown Cemetery from the beginning until a short time prior to his death, and for some time superintendent of the company. All these positions were filled with credit to himself and to the interest of the various corporations he served. To his first wife were born children,—Franklin C., George W. and Esther (wife of Jacob Hartrauft, de-

ceased), as also one who died in youth. By his marriage to a second wife were children,—Theophilus H. and Mahlon V., besides one who died in childhood. Mr. Smith was for nearly his whole life a consistent member of the Lutheran Church, and connected as an officer with the Church of the Transfiguration, contributing generously to the various organizations connected with the work of its members. His life was one of great usefulness. He was public-spirited, philanthropic and true to the best impulses of a noble nature. His death, which occurred March 12, 1884, occasioned universal sorrow.

were also the remaining brothers and sisters. After very limited advantages of instruction he learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, becoming an apprentice in 1808, and walking a distance of one hundred and twenty miles to avail himself of opportunities not afforded him near his home. He pursued this trade in Pottstown and vicinity for seven years, when the war of 1812 found him among its volunteer recruits. Later he assisted in the construction of the Schuylkill Canal, and on the 20th of January, 1820, was united in marriage to Susannah Christman, whose birth occurred November 26, 1798. Their children



Jones Smith

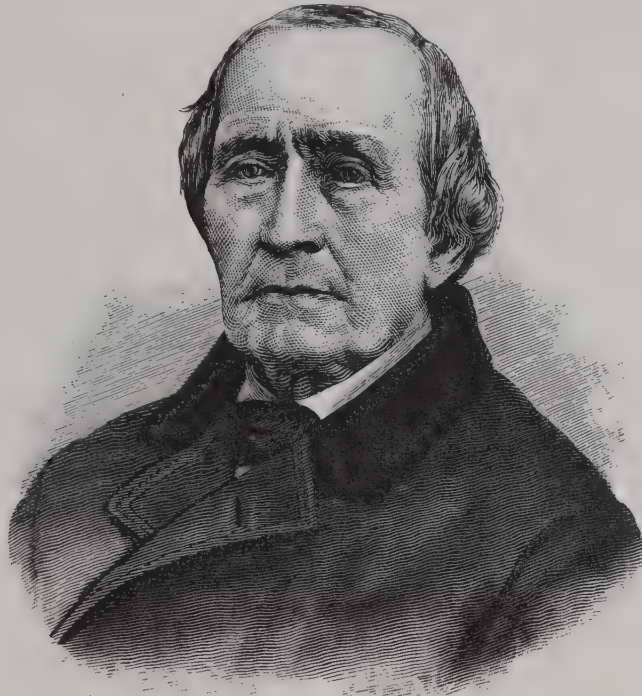
GEORGE MISSIMER.

Mr. Missimer is of French descent, his grandfather, Cassimir Missimer, having emigrated from Alsace. He married Margaret Brandt, whose children were eleven in number,—John, Henry, Jacob, Benjamin, Frederick, George and five daughters. Frederick, whose birth occurred in Virginia, married Elizabeth Kreider, of Montgomery County, whose children were Catharine, Mary, John, George, Samuel, Rebecca, Anna, Elizabeth, and three who died in childhood. George Missimer was born on the 1st of December, 1792, in Pottsgrove township, Montgomery Co., as

are Henry, born in 1825; Elizabeth, in 1827; George, in 1830; Susan, in 1832; Mary, in 1834; Rebecca, in 1836; Emeline, in 1839. After his marriage Mr. Missimer for eight years rented a farm in Pottsgrove, which was afterwards purchased by him. For sixteen years he resided upon this property, and on his practical retirement from active labor, in 1848, Pottstown became his home. He at this time controlled interests in various barges and engaged in other business enterprises. Mr. Missimer is an Andrew Jackson Democrat of the most pronounced type, having cast his first vote in behalf of that distinguished

Presidential candidate. He has represented his borough in the Council for many years, and also filled the office of street commissioner. He has been an important factor in the growth and development of Pottstown. Mr. Missimer is a director of Mt. Zion Cemetery and member of the Lutheran Church of the Transfiguration, in which he has been a vestryman since the erection of the church.

which most of the residences are built the scenery and general landscape is of a pleasing and picturesque character. The name is derived from an ancient ford over the Schuylkill River at this point, which took its name from a family of the name of Royer, who are believed to have owned the land many years ago and prior to the use of the stream for navigation purposes. Subsequent to the erection of dams and the consequent



GEORGE MISSIMER.

CHAPTER L.

BOROUGH OF ROYER'S FORD.

THE borough of Royer's Ford was incorporated by decree of the Court of Quarter Sessions dated June 14, 1879. The petition upon which this decree was made was signed by ninety-eight persons, who constituted a majority of the land-owners residing within the limits of the proposed borough.

The first local election for borough officers was held July 17, 1879, under the following officers appointed by the court: Adam Grander, judge; Allen S. Keeley and Silas S. Swartly, inspectors. A. S. Keeley made the original survey of the borough, as shown by the draft on file in the office of the clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

This borough is located on the eastern shore of the Schuylkill River, and on the line of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, distant from the former city thirty-two miles and from Norristown sixteen miles. The location is healthful, and from the elevation upon

destruction of the fords in common use, a bridge was constructed here, but the name of Royer's Ford was still retained by the villagers, and when the forms and advantages of municipal government became necessary, the ancient name possessed a popular charm that rendered its retention advisable in the judgment of the projectors of the borough enterprise.

The borough contains over two hundred residents and an estimated population of about one thousand persons. There are two hotels, three dry-goods stores, one dry-goods and grocery, three grocery and provision, one drug-store, tin-smith and marble-yard, besides other mercantile and mechanical enterprises. There are large manufacturing industries carried on here as mentioned in detail elsewhere,¹ to the influence of which the rapid and substantial growth of the borough is in a large measure attributable. There is a graded public school in the borough, taught by one male and two female teachers, having an attendance of one hundred and twenty-five pupils. Schools are

¹ See chapter "Manufactures," *ante*.

open for nine months in the year, and the salaries paid are forty, thirty and twenty-five dollars per month.

Places of Religious Worship.—The Royer's Ford Baptist Church was organized January 30, 1879, with fifteen members from the Baptist Churches of Lawrenceville, Pottstown and Phoenixville. A committee of three was appointed to call a council for February 8th, which was done. Delegates from the churches of Pottstown, Pughtown, Vincent, Windsor and Lawrenceville convened at the appointed time, and after examination, the church was recognized. On March 1, 1879, the church resolved to erect a house of worship fifty-five by thirty-five feet, of brick, on Church Street, which was soon after begun, and was completed and dedicated in the summer of 1880. In April, 1880, this church, in connection with Lawrenceville Church, called as pastor the Rev. C. W. O. Nyce, who remained till January, 1881. On the 14th of October, 1882, the Rev. William Edwards was called, and served the church until April 1, 1884. The Rev. J. M. Lyon, the present pastor, was called May 25th following. The church now has thirty-one members. The Methodist Episcopal Chapel is located on the corner of Church and Airy Streets, the land being donated by Daniel Latshaw.¹ The edifice is a plain, substantial brick building, with a seating capacity of upwards of two hundred persons. There is a Sabbath-school connected with the chapel, having an attendance of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty scholars.

The enterprising people of the borough have organized the Royer's Ford Hook-and-Ladder Company, and are prepared to battle with fire should it occur. Not possessing water-works, such as are in general use in larger towns, they have sunk a well to the level of the water in the Schuylkill River, from which water is led, furnishing a supply deemed adequate for any exigency likely to arise. The main thoroughfare known as Main Street, has been graded and macadamized, and presents a neat appearance; public improvements are in progress on High Street and the borough is rapidly approaching a condition and appearance that will give it a place among the substantial and flourishing towns in the Schuylkill Valley.

Commercial Return of Mercantile Appraiser for 1884.—Lewis Buckwalter, confectioner; A. D. Bechtel, flour and feed; A. C. Freed, provisions; Wm. Issett, meat and provisions; H. E. Kline, jeweler; J. M. Lewin, boots and shoes; Mowry & Latshaw, hardware; Place, Mahlon, tobacco; Royer's Ford Co-operative Association, groceries and provisions; Wm. Rice, provisions; Jones Rogers, merchandise; Daniel Springer, lumber; A. K. Saylor, drugs; Fred, Shaner, tobacco; Simon Snyder, notions; B. F. Saylor, tobacco; D. M. Ziegler, boots and shoes.

Number of taxables, 1884, 257; value of improved

lands, \$321,120; value of unimproved lands, \$9065; value of horses, \$3790; value of cattle, \$810; value of taxable property for county purposes, \$371,805.

Addison Buckwalter was Burgess of Royer's Ford from 1879–83. B. F. Saylor was elected to this office in 1884.

David Gow was appointed postmaster in 1842; Daniel Schwenk, January 1, 1860; and the present postmaster, Reuben Winter, January 1, 1860.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

EPHRAIM P. KEELY.

Henry Keely, the grandfather of Ephraim P. Keely, who was of German descent, resided in Perkiomen township, where he was actively employed as a blacksmith. His children were Henry, John, Jonas, Elizabeth (Mrs. Schantz) and Ann (Mrs. Kline), all of whom are deceased. Henry was a resident of Perkiomen township, the scene of his birth, where he followed the trade of a plasterer. He was also actively identified with the county militia, in which he held the rank of captain. Henry Keely married Hannah, daughter of John Peltz, of Upper Providence township, whose children were Abeltis, of Phoenixville; Ephraim P. and Jacob, of Upper Providence; Mary Ann, deceased (Mrs. John Wright, of Chester Co., Pa.); Manasseh, deceased; Salome (Mrs. William B. Wrightmeyer, of Pottstown); Susannah (Mrs. William Boyer, of Phoenixville); Hannah, deceased; and Henry, deceased. Ephraim P. was born January 21, 1827, in Perkiomen township, where he remained until his seventeenth year, meanwhile receiving such instruction as the neighboring school afforded. He then removed to Upper Providence and served an apprenticeship of two years as a carpenter and builder. On becoming proficient at this trade he readily found his skill in demand in the immediate vicinity, and later filled the position of foreman for the Reading Railroad Company.

In 1857, Mr. Keely removed to that portion of Limerick now known as Royer's Ford, and erected a residence, which is still his home. Since 1866 he has been engaged as a contract builder, having recently erected the glass-works at Royer's Ford, the First Reformed Church of Spring City, and the extensive stove-works of Grander, Rodgers & Co. He was, in 1851, married to Margaret Ann, daughter of Jacob Tyson, of Upper Providence, whose only son, Allen T., is now principal of the Royer's Ford Public School and justice of the peace, as also a skillful surveyor. Mr. Keely, in connection with his other enterprises, is engaged in the manufacture of brick for building purposes. He is a Democrat in his political convictions, but, aside from the office of Town Council-

¹ See "History of Methodism," *ante*.

man of the borough, has held no official position. He is a member of the Spring City Lodge, No. 553, of Free and Accepted Masons, of which he was the first and is the present treasurer. He is also a member of Phoenix H. R. A. Chapter, No. 198, of Jerusalem Commandery, No. 15, and of Palestine Council, No. 8. Mr. Keely is member of the Reformed Church of Spring City, Chester Co., Pa.

curbing has been done. Gulf Creek, a rapid stream that rises in Delaware County, after a course of nearly four miles, empties here into the Schuylkill, propelling in this distance several grist-mills, besides cotton and woolen manufactories. Near its mouth the highway and railroad cross it by substantial stone bridges. A small stream rises beyond the borough line on the south side of the Township Line road, and after a



Ephraim P. Keely

CHAPTER LI.

WEST CONSHOHOCKEN.¹

THIS borough is situated on the west side of the Schuylkill, directly opposite Conshohocken, and was incorporated October 6, 1874, its territory having been taken nearly equally from the townships of Upper and Lower Merion. Three railroads and a canal pass either through or by it and an iron bridge connects it with the opposite side of the river. The front on the Schuylkill is a mile and a quarter, and at its southern extremity extends westward nearly the same distance. Its area is about five hundred and forty acres. The ground is somewhat broken, and in the central portion rises to some elevation. As to the streets, comparatively little

course of nearly two miles empties into the river a short distance below the bridge. The station of the Reading Railroad is thirteen miles from Philadelphia, forty-five from Reading and eighty from Pottsville.

The population of West Conshohocken, according to the census of 1880, was 1462. Licenses were issued in May, 1883, to 5 hotels, 3 general stores, 1 stove and tin-ware, 1 boot and shoe, 1 drug and 1 provision-store, besides 1 dealer in flour and feed and 1 in coal. For 1882, 231 taxables were returned, holding real estate valued at \$640,850, and including the personal property, \$679,035. The average per taxable is \$2939, decidedly the highest of all the boroughs in the county, Conshohocken being \$1869; Norristown, \$1721; and Bridgeport, \$1656. Within the past ten years Mingo post-office was established here, which was changed January 1, 1884, to West Conshohocken, the present postmaster being Dr. McKinzie. The

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

public schools are four in number, and for the school year ending June 1, 1882, averaged one hundred and forty-four pupils in attendance. H. A. Markley is principal, assisted by three female teachers. The public-school building is a large stone structure situated on Church Avenue, to the rear of the built-up portion of the town. Gas is brought hither from Conshohocken in pipes laid over the bridge. The Balligomingo Baptist Church was constituted in 1855, and a stone church soon after erected. The pastors who have served the church have been the Revs. — Young, — Sagebeer, — Perry, W. W. Dalby, J. G. Walker, Thomas R. Evans and the Rev. E. I. McKeever, the present pastor, who began his labors in April, 1884.

The Merion and Elizabeth Furnaces, belonging to J. B. Moorhead & Co., are situated beside the Reading Railroad, near the bridge. The former was built in 1847 by Stephen Colwell and was enlarged in 1876. The latter was built in 1872 and put in operation in October of said year. They have a combined capacity to produce about five hundred tons per week. Mr. Moorhead has been the senior partner of the firm since 1857, and resides in Philadelphia. The iron produced here is chiefly known as gray forge, calculated for boiler-plates and sheet-iron. The woolen-mills of George Bullock, on Gulf Creek, in the northwest part of the borough, are quite extensive, and give employment to two hundred and seventy-five hands, producing above three hundred thousand yards of cloth per annum. Beside the railroad and near the bridge are extensive worsted-mills belonging to a company, which employ seven hundred hands. James Hall carries on the manufacture of carpets, giving labor to some twenty men. There are in the place, besides, several minor manufacturing establishments and mechanic shops.

The Township Line road, at quite an early period, was laid out from Chester County to this place; hence, originated a necessity for a crossing-place over the Schuylkill. Some time before the Revolution, Peter Matson resided here, who, in 1780, was assessed for holding one hundred and seventy-nine acres and three horses; Isaac Matson for two horses. It was from this family that the place was called Matson's Ford. In the Revolution it appears the British did some damage here, for which Peter Matson was allowed twenty-six pounds and Isaac Matson sixty-four pounds. It is probable that this was done at the time of the retreat of Lafayette, May 20, 1778, from Barren Hill, closely pursued by the enemy. He had scarcely got the last of his artillery across, before they were fired on by an advance party, which caused the loss of nine men, either killed or taken prisoners. Of the British, two horsemen were killed and several wounded. It is likely that this injury was done to the buildings in firing across the river. On the death of Peter Matson his land was divided among his four sons. The aforesaid Isaac Matson

was one of the number. The former, it is said, in his early life was greatly given to fox-hunting, keeping a pack of hounds for this purpose.

Where are now Mr. Bullock's woolen-mills, on Gulf Creek, George English erected before the Revolution, a fulling-mill which afterwards was conducted for many years by William Custer. On his death, about 1821, his son-in-law, Bethel Moore, became the owner, who made valuable improvements and entered extensively into the manufacture of woolen goods, especially satinets. A short distance above this, in 1856, George Townsend carried on a factory changed from a grist-mill that had formerly belonged to David Brooke. At Bethel Moore's establishment in 1858 were about thirty houses, a Baptist Church, store, school-house and several mechanic shops, which bore the name of Balligomingo. When the Merion Furnace and a few houses were built at the west end of the bridge, in 1847, the name of West Conshohocken was given to it. In 1858 it contained twenty-three houses, a store and a blacksmith-shop. The furnace then gave employment to thirty hands. A block-printing establishment and a bleaching-works had been formerly carried on there, but were then closed.

This place owes much of its prosperity to the early enterprise of William Davis, who owned at the time a considerable portion of the ground on which it is situated. The bridge here was incorporated in 1832 as the Matson's Ford bridge, and is still called by that name. On the night of September 2, 1850, it was swept away by a high freshet, but was soon after rebuilt. In the year 1872 it was rebuilt of iron. In going over it a very fine view of interesting scenery is presented therefrom by looking either up or down the Schuylkill. About half a mile below the borough a steep conical hill rises from the river probably to a height of three hundred feet and is supposed to be the highest eminence in Lower Merion. This elevation, which is a continuation of Edge Hill, is mentioned in the deeds of 1683 and 1685 to William Penn, called by the Indians Conshohocken, whence the name.

From what has been stated, West Conshohocken has had its origin from two distinct settlements, namely, Matson's Ford and Balligomingo, which will eventually, through its growth, be combined into one. For the purposes of a town its site is certainly the most rugged or uneven of any in the county. In the petition of its citizens to the court for incorporation, in the fall of 1874, they state that the place contained two general stores, a railroad depot, lumber-yard, three coal-yards, feed-store, two blacksmith and two wheelwright-shops, two furnaces, a cloth manufactory and other places of business, besides a population of three hundred inhabitants. From this statement we can perceive that the place has rapidly increased.

The bounds of the borough, according to its incorporation, are thus given,—

"Beginning at low water-mark on the southeasterly side of the



"WOODLAWN."

RESIDENCE OF GEORGE BULLOCK,
WEST CONSHOHOCKEN, MONTGOMERY CO., PA.

Schuylkill River, at a point dividing the lands of George Bullock, Joseph W. Conrad and Jonathan Conrad, in Upper Merion township; thence, by said line south 62 degrees, 35 minutes west, crossing the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad and the Schuylkill River road, by the middle of an old private road 93 perches $\frac{4}{100}$ to a corner-stone; thence by the same south 57 degrees, 50 minutes west 79 perches $\frac{1}{10}$ to a corner-stone in the middle of a public road, in a line of land belonging to the late Philip Rees, deceased; thence, by land of George Bullock, south 26 degrees, 55 minutes east 72 perches $\frac{1}{100}$ to a corner-stone and partly by said road, south 61 degrees, 8 minutes west 24 perches $\frac{4}{100}$ to a stake corner of Samuel Tinkle's land; thence, by land of George Bullock, south 28 degrees, 9 minutes east, crossing the Gulf Creek at the head of George Bullock's dam, and crossing the Ballingomingo road 65 perches $\frac{1}{10}$ to a Hickory tree, south 57 degrees, 51 minutes west 50 perches to a stone, a corner of land of the Isaac DeHaven, deceased; thence south 23 degrees, 56 minutes east 21 perches $\frac{3}{100}$ to a corner-stone; thence south 29 degrees, 39 minutes east 73 perches $\frac{1}{100}$ to a stone in the middle of a

George Bullock was elected burgess upon the incorporation in 1874, and has held the position continuously to the present time.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

WILLIAM DAVIS.

Mr. Davis is of Welsh descent, his grandfather being Reese Davis, who resided in Roxborough, Philadelphia Co., Pa. He was the father of two



township line road, dividing Upper and Lower Merion; thence along the same, north 60 degrees, 20 minutes east 11 perches $\frac{2}{100}$ to the north-easterly side of a public road through Lower Merion township; thence 30 degrees, 39 minutes east, 45 perches $\frac{2}{100}$ to the southeast side of Kenzie's Avenue; thence 50 perches $\frac{2}{100}$ to a point in a line of Moro Phillips' and Herring's line, north 63 degrees, east 21 perches $\frac{1}{100}$ to the middle of Moro Street; thence 79 perches $\frac{1}{100}$ to a corner, north 61 degrees, 25 minutes east, crossing a small stream of water 44 perches $\frac{1}{100}$ to a corner-stone, north 82 degrees, 57 minutes east 66 perches $\frac{1}{10}$ to a stake at a corner of Michael Murray's land; thence south 18 degrees, 32 minutes east 36 perches $\frac{2}{100}$ to a corner-stone of lands of Moro Phillips and John V. Crawford, north 60 degrees, east 69 perches $\frac{1}{10}$ to a marble stone on the northeast side of a public road crossing Arrowmink Creek, north 17 degrees, east 12 perches $\frac{1}{10}$ to a marble corner-stone on land of John Warden; thence north 5 degrees, 22 minutes east, crossing the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad 64 perches $\frac{2}{100}$ to a stake at low-water mark of Schuylkill River; thence up along the same by low-water mark 407 perches to the place of beginning."

sons, William and Thomas, the former of whom was born in Plymouth township, Montgomery Co., and later became a resident of Upper Merion, in the same county, where he engaged in farming, lime-burning and various other business ventures. He married Phebe Supplee, of the latter township, and had children,—Rachel, Rebecca (Mrs. Godfrey M. Young), Mary (Mrs. David T. Horton), William, Charles, George and several who are deceased. William Davis was born September 13, 1826, in that portion of Upper Merion now embraced in West Conshohocken, which has been the scene of all his business operations. After very limited educational advantages he was employed in various undertakings in which his father

was interested, and at nineteen entered a country store in Edgemont township, Delaware Co., Pa., where he remained one year as clerk, returning at the expiration of that period to West Conshohocken, where for two years he was employed in the same capacity by his father. He then embarked in the coal business, and having soon after, in connection with his brother, purchased the business of his father, they continued the two branches of trade. Mr. Davis, some years later, became associated with a partner in the purchase and sale of coal and lumber and the management of a saw-mill at Bridgeport, Montgomery Co., which business was finally sold, when he concentrated his capital and energies on his extensive interests at West Conshohocken, erecting a new store and in various ways increasing the scope of his enterprises at this point. In January, 1883, his two sons, W. Egbert and Reese P., were admitted to a partnership, the firm-name remaining as before,—William Davis, Jr., & Co. Mr. Davis was, in June, 1853, married to Emily Y., daughter of David N. Egbert, of Merion Square, in Lower Merion township. Their children are W. Egbert, Reese P., Emily Y. and three who are deceased. Mr. Davis has been, since its organization, a director of the First National Bank of Conshohocken and is also treasurer of the Matson's Ford Bridge Company. His political affiliations are Democratic. He has been treasurer of the borough and school district, and for many years filled the office of school director. He is identified with both the Masonic and Odd-Fellows' fraternities, having attained to high rank in the former. He was imbued in youth with strong Quaker predilections, but now worships at Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church of West Conshohocken, of which he has been vestryman.

CHAPTER LII.

CHELTENHAM.

CHELTENHAM is the extreme southeastern township in the county, and is bounded northeast by Abington, southeast and southwest by Philadelphia, and northwest by Springfield. It is of regular form, five and a half miles long, and above one and a half wide, with an area of five thousand four hundred acres, and after Springfield, Plymouth and Norriton, the smallest in extent. Its surface is quite rolling, with a soil composed of loam and gravel, which is well cultivated and productive. The Edge Hill range is the most elevated, and crosses its southwestern corner, by the village of that name. Cheltenham is well watered by numerous small lasting streams. The Tacony Creek is much the largest, flowing through the township about eight miles, and emptying into the

Delaware at Bridesburg. In its course it propels several mills and manufactories, to which purposes it has been applied from an early period. The name is of Indian origin, and in records of 1675 is called "Tawocawomink." On Thomas Holme's map of original surveys it is mentioned as "Frankford Creek."

The cuttings through the hills on the line of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, going north from Shoemakertown, afford to the geologist a fine study of the various strata of rocks that compose the interior of the elevations of this section, being at four or five places from twenty to forty feet deep. Few neighborhoods within so small an area afford so great a variety, among which can be enumerated gneiss, quartz, talc, schorl and mica. These, again, afford specimens of micaceous gneiss, micaceous schist, talcose and chlorite slates, serpentine, felspar, etc. Lumps of pure mica may be obtained here of the size of a fist. On the east side of the Willow Grove and Germantown turnpike, and about quarter of a mile south of the Limekiln pike, is an elevation that is remarkable for being composed of white flint pebbles, generally of half an inch in diameter, denoting that they were once formed and deposited here by the long-continued action of water, and that afterwards an upheaval must have taken place and thus left them dry. Building stone is extensively quarried in the vicinity of Jenkintown Station and sent off by railroad.

The York road turnpike passes through the central part of the township two miles, and the Limekiln pike about the same distance near its northwestern limits. The former was completed in 1804, and the latter in 1851. The Willow Grove and Germantown pike extends about one mile and a half, finished in 1857. The North Pennsylvania Railroad passes through it three and a half miles, with stations at Ashbourne, York Road, Cheltenham Hills and Abington. This improvement has greatly contributed to the prosperity of this section. The railroad from Philadelphia to Newtown passes nearly a mile across the southeast corner of the township. The villages are Shoemakertown, Edge Hill, Cheltenham, Ashbourne, Camptown and Harmer Hill. Post-offices are established at the first four places. Cheltenham, in 1790, contained 620 inhabitants; in 1820, 956; in 1850, 1292; and in 1880, 3236. It contains 390 inhabitants to the square mile, which is almost double the county average. The assessment for 1882 returned 690 taxables, real estate valued at \$2,531,060, including personal property, \$2,721,970, the average per taxable being \$3945, surpassed only by Springfield and Abington. The common-school system was accepted in the spring of 1838 by 16 majority, William Gillingham and Thomas Rowland being elected directors. For the school year ending June 1, 1882, thirteen public schools were open 10 months, averaging an attendance of 250 pupils. There are four houses of worship: St. Paul's, near Shoemakertown; Presbyterian, at Ashbourne; and two

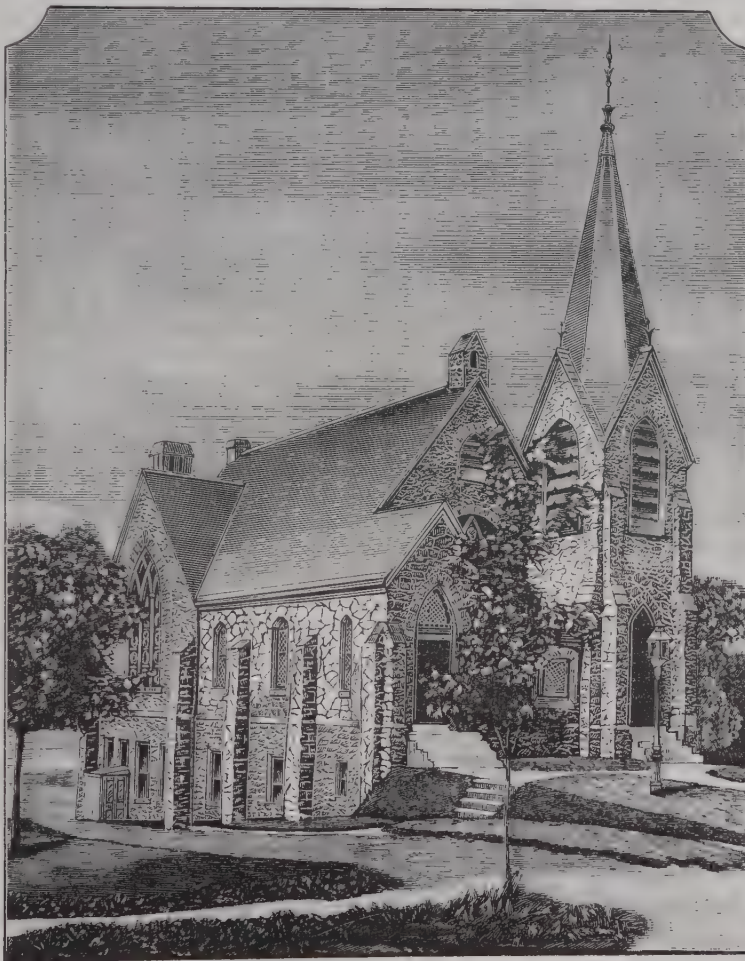
¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

Methodist Episcopal Churches. In May, 1883, 8 general stores, 4 hotels, 1 restaurant, 1 confectionery, 3 lumber and coal-yards, and 3 dealers in flour and feed were returned. In 1785, 6 grist-mills, 3 saw-mills, 1 tannery, and 1 fulling-mill were assessed. The census of 1850 mentions 181 houses and 192 families. Along the valley of the Tacony, and within this township in 1870 were 5 grist-mills, 1 fork, 1 edge-tool, and 2 shovel and spade manufactories.

Ashbourne, now the largest village in Cheltenham, is situated on the east side of the North Pennsyl-

facilities with the city, abounds in elegant residences.

The Presbytery of Philadelphia North, within whose bounds the Ashbourne Church¹ is located, had their attention called, several years ago, to the necessity of planting one or more churches along the line of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, to accommodate the rapidly increasing number of families from Philadelphia. An effort was made by a member of the Presbytery to hold services in Shoemakertown, a mile north of Ashbourne, but the attempt was soon



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ASHBOURNE.

vania Railroad, and but little over half a mile from the Philadelphia line. It contains about sixty-five houses, a store, post-office and church. The census of 1880 gives it three hundred and forty-two inhabitants. This place has entirely sprung into being since the construction of the railroad in 1856. The post-office has been established since 1876. The station is a handsome two-story building, with nice and neatly-kept grounds. The place was formerly a grist-mill, that dated back some time before 1750. This village is surrounded by a beautiful country, and from its nearness to and

given up. About this time a number of Presbyterian families from Philadelphia moved into the neighborhood of Ashbourne, and the necessity of providing a place of worship was impressed upon them. Accordingly, on June 5, 1878, a meeting was held, at which it was determined to open a Sabbath-school in a small building, the use of which was kindly offered by Mr. R. J. Dobbins. The school was opened on June 16th with about one hundred scholars. On the 8th of

¹ Sketch written by Rev. Richard Montgomery.

October following a petition was presented to Presbytery asking for church organization at Ashbourne. The petition was granted, and on October 25, 1878, the committee of Presbytery formally organized the Ashbourne Presbyterian Church, with fourteen members. Mr. Charles S. Luther, formerly an elder in the Bethlehem Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, and Mr. Thomas C. Van Horn were elected elders. After the ordination of Mr. Van Horn, these were installed. On March 12, 1880, Rev. J. W. Kirk, who had been in charge of the Somerville Mission, Germantown, was elected the pastor of the church, and installed May 13. During Mr. Kirk's pastorate the church increased in membership and the general work was systematized. October 3, 1882, Mr. Kirk, having received a call to another church, resigned this charge. On November 30th of this year the Rev. Richard Montgomery, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and of Princeton Seminary, was called to be pastor, and on December 19 was ordained and installed.

In April, 1883, a contract was entered into with Messrs. Bird and Given, of Philadelphia, to erect the new church building, according to plans furnished by Isaac Pursell, and in January, 1884, it was finished at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars. The church is now in a flourishing condition, with a membership of about one hundred. The present elders are T. C. Van Horn, D. H. Yerkes, H. J. Laird and J. L. Ervin.

About half a mile from Ashbourne, on the Tacony Creek, is Myers & Ervien's fork-factory, which gives employment to fifty hands. The business was first established by Jacob Myers about 1848. The old stone grist-mill here of Jacob Leech was built some time before 1751, and is now used by the firm for other purposes. Just below this is the extensive edge-tool manufactory of C. Hammond & Son, who employ between sixty and seventy hands. The buildings are all of stone, and have been recently enlarged. The father of the present proprietor commenced the manufacture here in 1840, with a few hands. The chief products are hatchets, sledges and hammers. The Philadelphia office is at 13 North Fifth Street. The adjacent country is rolling and abounding in fine springs of water.

The village of Cheltenham, which was long known as Milltown, is situated on the Tacony Creek, near the east corner of the township and within a quarter of a mile of the Philadelphia line. It contains near sixty houses, two stores and a two-story Methodist Episcopal Church. It is surrounded by a rolling country. Here is the extensive shovel and spade manufactory of Thomas Rowland's Sons, the firm being now composed of Howard, Rush and Lynford Rowland. The works are propelled by steam and water-power, and give employment to ninety-five hands. In the census report of Montgomery for 1810, mention is made that the only two tilt-hammers in the county were

owned here by Benjamin Rowland, by means of which he manufactured twelve hundred dozen of spades and shovels annually. Gordon, in his "Gazetteer of 1832," mentions the manufacture of fourteen thousand five hundred dozens, consuming for this purpose one hundred tons of iron. Benjamin Rowland and his brother William died within a few days of each other in December, 1872. Members of this family are also extensively engaged in iron and steel manufactures at Kensington and Frankford. Cheltenham post-office was established at this village before 1855, when Thomas Rowland, Jr., was postmaster. Within a quarter of a mile, on the city line, the Philadelphia and Newtown Railroad has a two-story station for passengers. The Methodist Episcopal Church at Cheltenham is recognized in the minutes of the Conference for the first time in 1864-65 by the appointment of the Rev. G. W. Lybrand as pastor. His successors have been M. A. Day, J. B. Maddox, D. L. Patterson, H. E. Gilroy, M. D. Kurtz, T. W. Simpers, William Mullin and T. C. Pearson.

Shoemakertown is situated near the centre of the township, on the York turnpike road. It contains thirty houses, a merchant mill, carriage-factory, hotel, store, Episcopal Church, two halls for concerts and lectures, several mechanic shops and a passenger station at the North Pennsylvania Railroad. The country around is quite rolling, and abounds in handsome country-seats. This is an old settlement, and was known by its present name at least in the beginning of this century. Gordon, in his "Gazetteer of 1832," mentions that it then contained "a grist-mill, store and four or five good dwellings." The hotel was licensed here soon after the opening of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, and was the first public-house in the township. The post-office was established in the fall of 1857, and J. Q. Rand appointed postmaster. The York road was laid out through here in 1711, and where it crosses the Tacony Creek no bridge had been erected in 1746. The venerable stone bridge here was built by the county in 1798. A short distance to the southeast of this bridge Richard Martin had a tannery in operation in 1776, and no doubt established some time before. The railroad here is stated to be one hundred and seventy-six feet above Delaware tide-water.

The first grist-mill at Shoemakertown was built on shares by agreement made November 6, 1746, with Dorothy, widow of Isaac Shoemaker, by Richard Mather and John Tyson, the ground belonging to the estate. This contract reveals several interesting facts,—that at that time there was a "sheep washing-place" in the creek to the rear of said Dorothy's garden, and a "fording-place" for the York road. It is called in the agreement a "corn-grist water-mill." John Tyson, who resided in Abington, June 14, 1752, sold his quarter-interest in it to John Shoemaker, most probably one of the heirs. It remained in the Shoemaker family here until April 1, 1847, when it was purchased

at public sale by Charles Bosler, tenant of the premises. This was considered a fine property in its day, and is denoted on Nicholas Scull's map of 1759 as "Shoemaker's Mill;" also on William Scull's map of 1770 and Reading Howell's of 1792. Charles Bosler having died August 11, 1873, at the age of sixty-three years, the property came into the possession of Joseph Bosler, his son, the present proprietor. The latter, in the summer of 1883, greatly improved the capacity of the mill, adding a seventy-two horse-power engine. The main building is now forty-two by sixty feet, four stories high, with a capacity to manufacture from one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and fifty barrels of flour daily.

Edge Hill village is situated in the northwest corner of the township, near the Abington and Springfield line, where the Limekiln turnpike and North Pennsylvania Railroad intersect. Its location is high, being on the southeast side of the eminence from which it has derived its name. The engineer's report states that the track of the railroad here in the deep cut is two hundred and eighty-four feet above Delaware tide-water at Philadelphia, one hundred and eight feet higher than York Road Station and one hundred and twenty-three feet higher than Fort Washington. This place has grown rapidly. The census of 1880 returns two hundred and ninety-five inhabitants, but the total surrounding population is higher than there stated. Cheltenham contains about fifty houses, a hotel, post-office and several stores and mechanic-shops. The extensive Edge Hill Iron-Works are just over the line, in Springfield township. The post-office was established here before 1851, and was the first in Cheltenham. The Carmel Presbyterian Church is in Abington, but near to the line. It is a neat one-story stone building, located at the north corner of the Limekiln pike and Edge Hill road, built in 1876. The present pastor is the Rev. R. H. Bent, installed January 1, 1882. Regular services are now held here. Rev. J. H. Dulles had charge here and at Jenkintown from April 17, 1877, one year.

Harmer Hill, or Greenwood Summit, is situated at the intersection of the Limekiln pike, Willow Grove and Germantown pike and the Church road. It contains a store and fourteen houses. The Audenried Public School-house is a fine two-story brick building, erected in 1878. It contains three schools, of which Mary Thompson is principal. The Methodist Episcopal Church at Harmer Hill, a one-story stone edifice, thirty-two by forty-four feet, was built in 1851. Services were held by preachers on the circuit until 1868-69, when the Rev. J. W. Hoskins was placed in charge of this church and Jarrettown. He was succeeded in 1870 by Abel Howard; 1871, W. L. McDowell; 1872-73, R. Turner; 1874-75, J. H. Brittan; 1883, T. C. Pearson; 1884, G. S. Schaffer. The ground attached contains about half an acre. On the tombstones are found the names of Coar, Sines, Harvey, Liggett, Bickley, Mitchell, Harmer, Gourley, Guillian,

Wentz, Heist, Sands, Mennich, Mercer, Burns, Megaw, Harper and Bolton. Camptown is a village of recent origin, on the Philadelphia line, about a quarter of a mile northwest of the York road. Here, in the late Rebellion, was Camp Wagner, established for colored recruits, from whence the present name. The census of 1880 gives it two hundred and six inhabitants. It contains above thirty houses and a school-house.

There is no doubt but what this township received its name through Toby Leech, one of the earliest land-holders and settlers here, and a man of considerable influence. On his tombstone at Oxford Church is found the statement that he "came from Cheltenham, in Gloucestershire, England, in the year 1682," which is a matter for confirmation. There is reason to believe that there is no district in the county which was named as early as this or had earlier surveys made to purchasers. We know from records that Thomas Fairman, on the 1st of Seventh Month, 1683, surveyed for Patrick Robinson two hundred acres of land adjoining Richard Wall, by Tacony Creek; they state that "this tract of land is in the parish of Cheltenham." The name is also mentioned the 3d of Eleventh Month of said year in the records of Abington Meeting. From these references we learn that Richard Wall's purchase had been made still earlier, and was located in the vicinity of the present Shoemakertown. He also came from Gloucestershire, and arrived here the 26th of Fourth Month, 1682, and probably in the same vessel with Toby Leech; they may have known each other in England. It was at his house that the Society of Friends worshiped as early as December, 1683, and from which, several years after, grew Abington Monthly Meeting. He died in the spring of 1689 and was buried in Philadelphia. In early records he is variously called Wall, Waln and even Worrell, but the latter appears to be a distinct name. Richard Worrell was an early settler in Oxford, and besides, we have Richard Wall, Sr., and Richard Wall, Jr., and the result is that these names are often confounded. We are inclined to believe in this case that the name should be Wall. The Walns were an early family in Bucks County, but never numerous.

According to Holme's map of original surveys, the first land-holders, beginning at the southeast end, adjoining the Philadelphia line, were John West, Nehemiah Mitchell, John Day, William Brown, Everard Bolton, John Ashmead, Toby Leech, Richard Wall, Patrick Robinson, John Russel, William Frampton, Mary Jefferson and Thomas Philips. All these tracts are denoted thereon as extending across the full breadth of the township, five hundred and twenty-six perches. Patrick Robinson's tract lay a short distance west of Shoemakertown. John Russel's purchase of three hundred acres came next, which was surveyed by the surveyor-general's order 30th of Sixth Month, 1683, and the patent given 16th of Fifth Month, 1684, signed by William Penn. He married Mary Woodward 5th of Twelfth Month, 1683, and died in

1698. Joseph Phipps, as assessor of Cheltenham, returned the following list of taxables in 1693: Humphrey Waterman, Edmund McVaugh, Samuel Voss, Thomas Terwood, Philip Hill, John Iramonger, Humphrey Morrow, Samuel Carl, John Roberts, John Barnes, Thomas Canby, William Routledge, Joseph Phipps, Sr., Joseph Phipps, Jr., Richard Wall, Tobias Leech, George Shoemaker, Thomas Whitton, Jonas Potts, Edward Eaton and John Russel.

Joseph Mather came from Bolton, Lancashire, as one of the servants of Phineas Pemberton, who settled in Eleventh Month, 1682, in Falls township, Bucks Co. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Russel, of Cheltenham, 8th of Sixth Month, 1697. The marriage took place at the house of Richard Wall. Among those present who signed as witnesses were John Russel, Samuel Richardson, Henry Baker, Phineas Pemberton, Richard Wall, William Gabitas, Evan Morris, John Goodson, John Jones, Isaac Norris. Samuel Carte, Everard Bolton and others. By the death of John Russel in the following year, his tract thus came into this family, Richard Mather, son of Joseph, in 1734 still holding the said three hundred acres. In 1720, Joseph Mather proceeded on a visit to England to attend to some business matters, on which occasion the meeting furnished him with a very favorable certificate. He died in Cheltenham in 1724, his widow administering to the estate. She was a minister in Abington Particular Meeting, and died in Ninth Month, 1730. A portion of the original tract, containing ninety-four acres, is still in the family, now the estate of Thomas T. Mather, adjoining the Philadelphia line, while Isaac Mather holds the upper portion at Jenkintown. Portions of this tract are also now owned by Thomas Miller, Townsend Sharpless, Edward Starr, Henry Lippincott, Joshua W. Lippincott, John Wanamaker and several others. The Ogontz Seminary for young ladies, the Cheltenham Academy for boys, conducted by Rev. S. Clement, and Cheltenham Hills Station are also located on the tract. In the township assessment for 1776, Richard Mather is mentioned as holding one hundred and twenty acres; Bartholemew Mather, ninety-three acres; and Benjamin Mather, as a single man. Richard Mather was one of the parties in building the first grist mill at Shoemakertown in 1747. Isaac Mather erected the mill at the present Cheltenham Hills Station in 1769. Richard and Bartholemew Mather built about said time a grist and saw-mill on the stream crossing Washington Lane, now the Ogontz property. The latter have been removed for some time.

Toby Leech was probably one of the earliest settlers of the township, having come from Cheltenham, in Gloucestershire, in 1682, and soon after this date made a purchase of six hundred and four acres, making his residence on the Tacony Creek, a short distance above where is now Myers & Ervien's fork-factory, where he erected a grist-mill and conducted a tannery. He was a prominent man in his day, of whom heretofore

very little has been published. A road was laid out from his place to Germantown before the spring of 1704, thus showing already some travel in that direction. In November, 1711, he was one of the twelve jurors in laying out the old York road from the present Centre Bridge, on the river Delaware, through the present Shoemakertown, to the intersection of Fourth and Vine Streets, Philadelphia. He was one of the county commissioners in 1718, which office he held for several years. He died November 13, 1726, aged seventy-four years, and his wife, Hester, the 11th of August previous, aged sixty-six years. Both were buried beneath one stone in Trinity Churchyard, Oxford. At their arrival they must have been aged, respectively, thirty and twenty-two years. His old mansion is still standing, and is now the property of John Thompson. As may be expected, at this period it presents a unique and venerable appearance. It is of stone, two stories high, forty-two feet long and from twenty-four to thirty-six feet in width. The heavy oak balustrades of the stairway and the singular architecture of the arched entrance leading from the hall into the parlor impress one with their appearance of antiquity. Tradition says that Mr. Leech carried on here, from the flour of his mill, the manufacture of sea biscuits, which were hauled to the city and sold to shippers. Traces of the old oven are still pointed out.

In the list of 1734 we find, among those holding lands in Cheltenham, Isaac Leech, three hundred and fifty, Jacob Leech, two hundred and thirty, and Widow Leech, one hundred acres. The first two were sons of Toby Leech, and the latter probably a son's wife. The first-named was assessor of the township in 1724, and county commissioner in 1727. John Leech was assessor in 1720. Jacob Leech was a township collector in 1727, a vestryman of Trinity Church and the owner of a mill on the Tacony Creek, and died January 28, 1750-71, aged fifty-seven years. Eleanor, his widow, who had a son Jacob Leech, administered to his estate. There was a Thomas Leech clerk of the Assembly from 1723 to 1727, and a trustee of the loan office, in 1743. Isaac Leech was appointed one of the justices of the County Courts April 4, 1741, and was Speaker of the Assembly in the years 1756, 1758 and 1759. In the Cheltenham assessment for 1776 we find the names of Jacob Leech holding one hundred and sixty-eight acres; Samuel Leech, one hundred and seventy acres; and of Isaac Leech, who became a member of Hatboro' Library Company in 1768. Thomas Leech, who was assessed in Abington for one hundred acres in 1780, was the father-in-law of Hon. N. B. Boileau of Hatboro', whose only son was called Thomas Leech Boileau. On Hill's map of the "Environs of Philadelphia," published in 1809, "S. Leech" is represented as holding, on the east side of the York road, in this township, one hundred and ninety-three acres, and "J. Leech" a smaller tract on the west side. The lands of the former have become divided; portions are now owned by R. J. Dobbins, E. M. Davis, J.

Cooke, Jr., John Thompson, William Birchell's estate, and the greater portion of Ashbourne is located on them. Descendants of the family are still found in the township and its vicinity.

George Shoemaker, the ancestor of the family, came from Creisheim, in the Palatinate, where he had embraced the religious views of the Quakers. Meeting with persecution there, at the invitation of William Penn he resolved to come to Pennsylvania. He embarked in England on the ship "Jeffries," Thomas Arnold, master, with Sarah, his wife, and children, George, aged 23 years; Abraham, 19; Barbara, 20; Isaac, 17; Susanna, 13; Elizabeth, 11, and Benjamin, 10. To the great misfortune of the family, he died on the voyage, and was buried at sea. The vessel arrived here with the rest of the family the 20th of First Month, 1686. It appears that they first settled in or near Germantown. George Shoemaker, the eldest son aforesaid, married Sarah Wall, the 14th of Twelfth Month, 1694, at the house of Richard Wall, who was probably her brother, which may account for his settling in Cheltenham, and how he came in possession of his land. He is, however, mentioned here as a taxable in 1693. We know that in November, 1711, he was one of the jurors in the laying out of the York road, in the report of which it is stated as passing directly by his house. He had six children,—Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Elizabeth, George and Richard. Jacob Shoemaker is mentioned in 1714 as having three children,—Thomas, Jacob and Susanna. In 1734 we find, in Cheltenham, George Shoemaker mentioned as holding one hundred acres, and Isaac twenty acres. The latter was a blacksmith by occupation, and husband of Dorothy, who died before 1747. In the assessment for 1776, George Shoemaker, mason, is rated for ninety acres; Benjamin Shoemaker, ninety-three; John Shoemaker, sixty; William Shoemaker, fifty-five acres; and Thomas Shoemaker, a single man. William Shoemaker, died in Shoemakertown June 8, 1804, aged eighty-two years. Robert Shoemaker, the well-known druggist of Philadelphia, who resides in the vicinity, is the sixth in descent from George Shoemaker, the original settler at Shoemakertown.

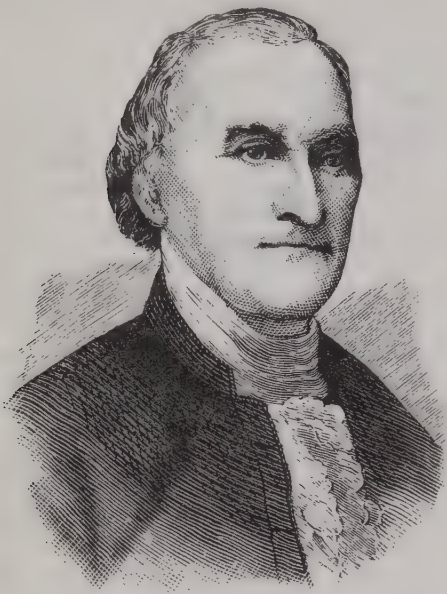
The population of Cheltenham had so increased by 1734 that it contained at that time twenty-three resident landlords and tenants, whose names were as follows: Isaac Leech, 350 acres; Jacob Leech, 230; Richard Mather, 300; George Shoemaker, 100; Isaac Shoemaker, 20; George Herman, 50; Baltus Acron, 50; John Williams, 200; John Williams, Jr., 200; John Duel, 100; William Spencer, 100; Rees Potts, 70; Richard Murray, 250; David Fulton, 100; Thomas Carval, 100; John Thomas, 100; Thomas Jones, 100; Philip Gregg, 150; David Perry, 100; Widow Leech, 100; Richard Martin, Edward Collins, 150; and Josiah Wood, 30 acres. Descendants of the name of Shoemaker, Mather, Williams, Herman, Spencer, Thomas and Jones still hold land in the township. William Howell by patent in 1707, took up 779 acres which lay on the

Church road, east of the Limekiln pike. In 1709 he left by will his plantation of 400 acres to his wife, Mary. A portion of this estate afterwards came into the possession of Hon. Joel K. Mann, who resided on it till his death in 1857.

A short distance northwest of the present village of Harmer Hill, on the Church road, was located what was long known as "Twickenham Farm," the country-seat of Thomas Wharton, Jr., of Philadelphia. He had purchased it some time before the Revolution, and had so improved it that it was considered at the time one of the finest properties in the township. Mr. Wharton was born in the city in 1735. His first wife was Susan, daughter of Thomas Lloyd. After her death he married Elizabeth, daughter of William Fishbourne. He was a warm supporter of the Revolution, was elected president of the Supreme Executive Council March 5, 1777, which position he retained until his death, May 23, 1778. He was buried at Lancaster with military honors. In November following, Twickenham was advertised at public sale, containing two hundred and twenty-five acres, of which one hundred were woodland and twelve meadow bounded by lands of Jacob Funk, Christopher Ottinger and others. The greater portion of the lands was purchased by Isaac Potts, who made it his permanent home. In 1803, while preaching in Germantown Meeting, he died suddenly. His executors, Samuel Potts, his son, who resided thereon, and Jacob Raul, in the fall of said year, advertised it at private sale, described as containing two hundred acres, fifty-five of woodland and fourteen of meadow. "The barn with stabling for thirty head of stock, and the house of stone with four rooms on each story." We can perceive that even at this date large barns were sometimes built.

Colonel Samuel Miles, of the Revolutionary army, resided near Spring Mill, in Whitemarsh, for several years. He was elected a member of the First City Troop in 1783, and became its captain in 1786, which position he held until 1791, when he resigned. In 1792 he purchased a farm in this township, about half a mile southwest of the present village of Cheltenham, where he continued his residence until his death. On this property he had a slitting-mill, which has now entirely disappeared. Colonel Miles was an enterprising man, and purchased a tract of several thousand acres near Bellefonte, on which he erected a furnace carried on by two of his sons. He laid out on his land the town of Milesboro', which thus received its name. In February, 1805, he was appointed one of the trustees of Norristown Academy, and in October, 1805, elected one of the members of Assembly from this county. During the session at Lancaster he was taken with illness, which induced him to hasten home, where he died December 29, 1805, aged nearly sixty-six years. His farm is now occupied by John Emery, and contains one hundred and seventy-six acres, the Tacony Creek flowing through it nearly

three-fourths of a mile. His will was made in 1805, appointing his son, Joseph Miles, and son-in-law,



SAMUEL MILES.

Joseph B. McKean, executors, devising his Cheltenham property to his daughter, Mary Miles.

Captain Robert Coltman, of the Revolutionary army, owned and resided on a farm of forty-five acres, now comprised in the Ogontz property, where he died in 1816. He entered the Fourth Battalion of Artillery, commanded by Colonel Thomas Procter, February 5, 1777, and was appointed to a lieutenancy the following March 14th. For meritorious services he was promoted to the rank of captain March 3, 1779. His great-grandson, Dr. Robert Coltman, of Jenkintown, possesses his portrait in oil, and his badge and certificate of the Society of Cincinnati.

Among the noted men of Cheltenham should be mentioned Richard T. Leech, a descendant of an early family here. The names of his parents we cannot give, nor very little else outside of his public life. He was one of the founders of Abington Library, at Jenkintown, February 19, 1803, and one of its incorporators in 1805. He subsequently became one of its directors, in which office he was continued for several years. About this time he was also elected one of the county commissioners. In October, 1809, he was elected to the Assembly, and was returned for several years. General Andrew Porter, of this county, having been appointed surveyor-general May 10, 1809, retained the position until his death, November 16, 1813, when Governor Snyder appointed Mr. Leech his successor the following December 7th. Mr. Leech continued in this office until February 13, 1818, when he was succeeded by Jacob Spangler. He afterwards removed to Pittsburgh, where he died August 26, 1850, aged seventy-five years.

Among those who attained longevity in Cheltenham may be mentioned Catharine Gill, who died February 24, 1808, at the advanced age of one hundred and one years. Benjamin Hallowell, the distinguished teacher of Alexandria, Va., was born in this township in 1799. His parents were Anthony W. and Jane Hallowell. His mother was a daughter of Benjamin Shoemaker, of Shoemakertown, near which they resided. Mr. Hallowell died September 7, 1877, aged seventy-eight years, after a life of great usefulness. He was induced by his descendants to write an autobiography within a few years of his death, which was published in 1883. Lucretia Mott, widely known as a moral reformer and minister among Friends, resided on the York road, near the city line, where she died November 11, 1880, aged eighty-eight years. Ogontz, the country-seat of Jay Cooke has, since October, 1883, been converted into a young ladies' seminary, in charge of the Misses Bonney, Dillaye, Bennett and Eastman, of Philadelphia. John Wanamaker resides on the York road, adjoining the Abington line. Numerous country-seats are to be found through Cheltenham, for which its rolling surface, fine thrifty woodlands and lasting springs of water cause it to be excellently adapted, favored as it is with unusual railroad facilities to the city.

Before 1704 a road had been laid out from Toby Leech's residence to Germantown, which was complained of by Thomas Godfrey because it divided his land inconveniently. The Limekiln road is mentioned, and bore this name before 1716. A road was opened from the York road by way of Abington Meeting-house to Jacob Leech's mill, now Myers & Ervien's fork-factory, on the Tacony Creek, in 1751.

The Church road is an important highway in this township, extending through the central part in its whole length. It was laid out in September, 1734, from Oxford Church to St. Thomas' Church, White-marsh; hence the name. The township book commences in 1767, the road expenses for said year being £23 19s. 6d.

It may appear strange to state now that for many years, down to 1850, the elections of this township were held at the village of Abington, in an adjoining township. In that year an act of Assembly was passed making it a separate district and ordering the elections to be held at Shoemakertown. By an order of court, confirmed June 5, 1882, the township was divided into two election districts, to be called East and West Cheltenham; the elections of the former to be held at the public school-house in Ashbourne, and of the latter at Audenried Public School-house, Harmer Hill. In November, 1884, both were held in Shoemakertown.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church.—Services having been held for several years at private residences and a Sunday-school organized, it became apparent that efforts should now be made for the erection of a church. The first meeting for this purpose was held

June 23, 1860, at which were present residents of Cheltenham Hills and vicinity, and on which occasion a fair amount was subscribed. A resolution was adopted that the church should be built at the intersection of the old York road and Cheltenham Avenue. A vestry was elected, consisting of John W. Thomas, Jay Cooke, J. F. Penistan, Wm. C. Houston, John Biard, Robert Shoemaker, Wm. G. Moorhead, Frederick Fraley, H. P. Birchall, Isaac Starr, Jr., George C. Thomas and Wm. Elliott.

Such was the success attending the enterprise that at the second meeting, convened August 27, 1860, the bishop of the diocese, Right Rev. Alonzo Potter, was requested to lay the corner-stone, September 3, 1860. Addresses were delivered on the occasion by Rev. William Bacon Stevens and the Rev. Richard Newton. The Rev. Robert J. Parvin was elected the first rector April 19, 1861. The church was consecrated the following May 16th by the bishop, rector and the Revs. Charles D. Cooper, Benjamin Watson, D. C. Millitt, J. W. Cracraft and O. B. Keith. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Newton, rector of St. Paul's Church, Philadelphia. The church was now opened for regular services. On March 28, 1864, plans for a new building for the Sunday-school and library were submitted to the vestry, and its erection was decided upon. A new organ was placed in the church in 1866.

Mr. Parvin having been elected general secretary of the Evangelical Educational Society, December 26th of this year, resigned the rectorship after a ministry of more than five and a half years, to take effect January 1, 1867. About two years later he perished in a terrible steambot disaster on the Ohio River. The present incumbent, Rev. Edward W. Appleton, was elected to the rectorship June 19, 1867, and entered on its duties the 30th of said month. The congregation worshiped in their enlarged church the first time February 23, 1868, Bishop Lee, of Iowa, preaching the sermon. The improvements to the church cost more than seven thousand dollars. In the same year the rectory was completed, also a large and commodious hall, intended for the use of the Young Men's Bible Class, and a sexton's house adjoining being the gift of two of the vestry.

The tower of the church was commenced in 1869 and finished the following year. A portion of the grounds in the rear of the edifice were now set apart for burial purposes. In the autumn of 1879 a large and admirable organ, built by Roosevelt, of New York, was placed in the church. For this improvement, as well as the tower and clock, the parish is indebted to the younger members of the congregation. During Dr. Appleton's rectorate to November, 1881, exclusive of pew-rents, the handsome sum of one hundred and thirty-six thousand seven hundred and fifteen dollars has been contributed by the members for religious and benevolent purposes. During that period two hundred and forty-three infants and seventy adults

were baptized, one hundred and ninety-seven confirmed, sixty-three married, and there were one hundred and twenty-one interments in the burial-ground.

The church is a handsome, commodious and substantial one-story Gothic edifice, of stone, with stained-glass windows and slate roof. The tower is square, above seventy feet in height, with a clock and chime of ten bells; the latter presented by Mrs. John W. Thomas, December 9, 1882. A transept on the south side of the church was completed in February, 1883, built at the expense of Charles B. Wright, Esq. Other substantial improvements have also been lately made, costing two thousand five hundred dollars. The rectory adjoining is a fair-sized two-story building. The grounds comprise about five acres; they are neatly laid out, and the buildings modeled after the most approved architectural designs.

ASSESSMENT OF CHELTENHAM FOR 1776.

Bartholomew Mather, assessor, and Peter Rush, collector.

George Shoemaker, 93 acres, 4 horses and 5 cows; Benjamin Shoemaker, 93 a., 2 h., 5 c., 22 acres in Hosham; George Abercost, 1 c., 10 children; Hugh Hugh, $\frac{3}{4}$ a.; William Shoemaker, 55 a., 2 h., 2 c.; David Harmer, 1 h.; Richard Mather, 120 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 8 c., $\frac{1}{2}$ saw-mill, $\frac{1}{4}$ grist-mill; Bartholomew Mather, 93 a., 3 h., 4 c., $\frac{1}{2}$ saw-mill, $\frac{1}{2}$ grist-mill; Isaac Cleaver, 95 a., 3 h., 3 c.; George Carr, 7 a., 1 c.; John Stump; John Goodwin, cordwainer, 1 c.; Samuel Leech, 170 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Stephen Hall, 1 h., 4 c.; John McLaughlin, 60 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Anthony Williams, Jr., 200 a., 1 servant, 3 h., 6 c.; Jeremiah Lap; Jacob Piper; John Miller, cordwainer, 40 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Jacob Miller, 200 a., 3 servants, 4 h., 5 c.; Jacob Nase, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Baltus Ernst, 46 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Harry, 57 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Henry Fetter, 2 h., 3 c.; Christian Cress, 65 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Funk, 160 a., 5 h., 8 c.; Jacob Strunk; John Slingluff, 10 a., 1 h., 1 c., aged; Henry Slingluff, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c., aged; Henry Slingluff, Jr.; Charles Long; Valentine Puff, 2 h., 2 c.; William Stevens, 1 h.; Caspar Martin, mason, 80 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Amos Thomas, 64 a., 3 h., 2 c.; William Leedom, 116 a., 3 h., 4 c.; John Lap, 1 c.; John Webster, 120 a., 2 h., 1 c.; James Gold, 16 a., 1 c.; Richard Rob, 1 c.; Nathan Williams; Thomas Martin; Jacob McVaugh; Enoch Thomas, 94 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Matthew Hague, 1 h., 1 c.; Edward Kennedy; Jacob Leech, 168 a., 2 servants, 3 h., 4 c.; Fred. Emerich, 2 h., 5 c.; John Emerich; Isaac Leech; John Updyke, 1 c.; William Burk; Peter Rush, 86 a., 1 servant, fulling-mill, 3 h., 4 c.; John Thompson, 60 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Mary Hopple, widow, 100 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Ulrich Rouner, 20 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Isaac Bowdman, 1 c.; John Hallowell, miller, 1 h., 2 c.; William Thompson, 53 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Joseph Linn, 84 a., 1 negro, 1 h., 4 c.; Patrick McGargey, 1 h., 2 c.; Jacob Mier, 70 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Matthew Ray, 3 h., 5 c.; Peter Taylor, carpenter, 60 a., 2 h., 2 c.; William McGargey, 60 a., 1 h., 3 c.; John Smith; Frederick Altemus, 72 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Henry Child, 3 h., 4 c.; Isaac Jones, 116 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Jacob Gier, 2 c.; John Vandyke, 1 c.; George Dilker, weaver, 2 h., 2 c.; Samuel Jones, 50 a.; Jonathan Jones, 2 h.; John Young, 3 h., 4 c.; Henry Young; William Hallowell, 100 a., 2 h., 5 c., grist and saw-mill; Richard Martin, tanner, 46 a., and tanyard, 1 servant, 1 negro, 3 h., 3 c.; Samuel McElhoes, 1 c.; Henry Love; John Shoemaker, 60 a., 1 servant, 9 h., 6 c., grist-mill, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a grist-mill, 50 a., and house; Daniel Foy; Solomon Williams, 1 c. *Single Men*.—Benjamin Mather, William Gilman, Samuel Grimes, Thomas Kennedy, Lawrence Relf, John Rob, Abraham Kennard, William Hawkins, Samuel Crosby, Jesse Thompson, John Hase, John McGargey, John Child, Thomas Jones, William Jeans, Thomas Shoemaker, Samuel Butler.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOHN J. WILLIAMS.

John Williams, the great-grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, born in 1670, was a resi-

dent of Merineth, in Wales. While yet in his minority he associated himself with a land company, where, by warrant dated 13th of Tenth Month, 1690, William Markham, Robert Turner and John Goodson surveyed five thousand acres of "Welsh Tract," part of Merion, of liberty lands, to John Thomas, John Williams and others. He also invested at later periods largely in lands in Cheltenham and Bristol townships, as well as in other sections of the new country. The same John Williams married Ellen Klincken on the 3d of Sixth Month, 1696, at the place of religious meetings of Friends in Germantown. Ellen was the daughter of Arents Klincken, who came from Dalem; near Creyfelt, in Holland, to this country in 1683, having known William Penn in Holland. He built the first two-story house ever raised in Germantown, Penn having been present and partaken of the raising-dinner. It stood near the southwest corner of Main and Tulpehocken Streets. Arents Klincken served several years as Burgess of Germantown, but finally, in 1691, declined longer service for conscience' sake. He died at the age of eighty, leaving a son, Anthony, a noted hunter, who spent a long life in such exercises in the vicinity, and from whom the traditional name of Anthony has since been perpetuated in the Williams family.

John Williams and Ellen, his wife, had six children,—Mary, born 7th of Fourth Month, 1697, married to Anthony Dennis; Hannah, born 29th Ninth Month, 1702, married to Lewis Roberts; John, born the 4th of Second Month, 1705, married to Katherine Marl in 1732, who left a son, Joseph, and died the 14th of Tenth Month, 1737; Arrett, born 13th of Twelfth Month, 1707–8, died young; Ann, married Joseph Ambler; Anthony, the youngest and only son surviving his parents, was born the 13th of Sixth Month, 1711, and to him was bequeathed all his father's lands and messuages. He married Sarah Shoemaker, daughter of George Shoemaker and granddaughter of Richard Wall, who bought land and settled in Cheltenham previous to Seventh Month 1, 1683. Richard came from Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England.

Anthony and Sarah were married at Abington Friends' Meeting-house the 17th of First Month, 1736. They settled in Bristol township, adjoining the homestead farm in Cheltenham; had a family of eighteen children, many of whom died in youth. Sarah, the mother, died Twelfth Month 13, 1758, aged forty-one years, six months, leaving the father with a very responsible charge. Among their children who grew to man's estate and married was George Williams, who lived opposite Abington Meeting and served as clerk of that meeting for many years; Isaac, who settled in Whitemarsh on a large farm, and died in his eighty-ninth year; and Anthony Williams, Jr., who was born the 30th day of Ninth Month, 1743, and married Rachel Jarrett.

It will here be necessary to review two generations

to obtain the correct genealogy of the Jarrett family, the ancestors of the mother of John J. Williams,—John Jarrett, the grandfather of said Rachel Jarrett, came from Scotland in the early days of the province and settled in Horsham township. His name appears in 1714 as a land-holder in Germantown. He married Mary Lucken, born 18th of Eleventh Month, 1693, daughter of Jan Lucken, who came from Holland, in company with many other Friends, and landed at Chester the 3d of Ninth Month, 1683. They later settled in Germantown, and were closely associated with Francis Daniel Pastorius in their allegiance to the principles of William Penn. John and Mary Jarrett had a son, John, born to them the 3d of Third Month, 1718. He married Alce Conrad, born 9th of Eighth Month, 1718, at Abington Meeting, Third Month, 1740. Their twelve children were John, Mary, Elizabeth, Hannah, Rachel, William, Alice, Jonathan, David, Jesse, Tacy and Joseph, many of whom lived to be very aged people, and were remarkable for their healthful and vigorous constitutions and industrious habits. Anthony Williams and Rachel Jarrett were married at Abington Meeting the 25th of Eleventh Month, 1772.

They settled and lived on the old homestead farm, on the Limekiln road, in Cheltenham, where was raised a family of three brothers,—Joseph, John J. and Anthony—and one sister, Alice, who died a young woman, unmarried. Joseph, the oldest, was born the 2d of Seventh Month, 1777; married Ann Hallowell, daughter of John and Martha Hallowell, the 15th of Fifth Month, 1800, at Abington. About this time they removed to a farm in Whitemarsh township, where six children were born to them Charles (first), died young, Alice, Anthony, Martha, Charles (second), and Ann. Martha and Ann lived to be young women, but died unmarried and the parents resided here until the other children had grown to mature years, when they removed to Philadelphia.

Joseph Williams, an exemplary Friend, was in many respects a remarkable man, being gifted with great force of will and nerve-power, which qualified him for an active, energetic and successful business life. Kind and generous, he was ever ready to assist a worthy neighbor or friend in a substantial way, and many families now living in Montgomery County owe their present prosperous condition, in a great measure, to the propitious help given their ancestors at a critical time, when overshadowed with a cloud of adversity. As he in time became aged and infirm, it was considered expedient that he should return to the farm, that his son Charles could minister to his personal comforts, where he died 19th of Third Month, 1863, in his eighty-seventh year. He was interred at Friends' burying-ground in Plymouth.

Anthony Williams, the youngest son of Anthony and Rachel Williams, was born in 1785, and married Elizabeth, daughter of George Craft, 10th of Tenth Month, 1811. She was a consistent and devoted wife.



John J. Williams



Thos Williams

an affectionate and Christian mother and a useful and obliging neighbor and friend. May her good example be emulated by the present and future generations! Anthony and his wife resided on a farm adjoining the old homestead, east of Linnekiln road, and lived to the ripe old age of fourscore years and upward.

John J. Williams, the second son of Anthony Williams, Jr., and Rachel, his wife, was born the 7th of First Month, 1783, and married Lydia Knight, born 13th of Twelfth Month, 1799, daughter of Jonathan and Mary Cleaver Knight, in the autumn of 1823.

John J. Williams, as a consequence of his marriage to Lydia Knight, who was not in membership with the Society of Friends, and therefore not in accordance with the exacting discipline of the society in use in those times, was formally dealt with, as was the custom, by the meeting. He was urged by many Friends to make the required acknowledgment, which he considered unreasonable. Seeing the dissensions already operating in the society at that time, which, if not corrected, must inevitably lead to a dissolution of the entire membership, he concluded to relinquish his rights as a member, whereby he was released from the grave responsibility of the church, and by so doing not be compelled to compromise the feelings of his wife. He still, however, entertained a strong affection for the society, which had endeared itself to him by long association, his ancestry from the time of William Penn having affiliated with the Friends, and he, with his entire family, continued to attend the meetings on the First-day of the week.

They resided on the old farm from the date of their marriage until the spring of 1850, when, as their son Thomas was about to marry, and as some of the family had a desire to remove to the city, the father reluctantly gave up the management of the property to his son and moved his family to Philadelphia. He still manifested a lively interest in the affairs of the old neighborhood, to which he was much attached, and among other duties served as director of Cheltenham school district one year after he and his family had removed to the city, a position he held from the time of its adoption, in 1838.

Although not a politician, he was a great admirer of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster, and was always identified with the old Whig party.

He took great delight in encouraging enterprising persons venturing into business without sufficient capital, and would aid them in many ways, lending them money even to stinting himself and indorsing their paper to such an extent as to alarm his family and friends. When remonstrated with by some of his best and most conservative friends, he would reply that he was "trying to make a man of such and such a person."

In his efforts to assist others he, in several instances, lost very heavily, and on one occasion was so reduced

financially by indorsing paper as to be in imminent peril. His friends advised him to make an assignment, but his manly and indomitable spirit scorned the suggestion, and he replied that if he had any friends to stand by him so that he could retain the old farm, he would eventually pay all his obligations and recuperate his fortune. He found in this crisis a true friend in his brother Joseph, who, having, like himself, a large heart and ample means, together with the aid he received from his father-in-law, Jonathan Knight, President of the old Northern Liberty Bank at that time, he was able to bridge over the financial chasm which threatened to engulf him. The old homestead, which had been in the family since 1716, was thus saved from the hands of the sheriff. This period of tribulation was about 1833 and 1835, and John J. Williams, blessed with an excellent wife, through economical management and persevering industry, was able to acquire a competency in his latter years, at the same time maintaining the social duties of a good citizen and performing many acts of neighborly kindness. He trained up his children to habits of industry and instilled in their minds correct views of their moral responsibility, which he and his wife considered more important than any material inheritance which they could bequeath to their family. He died in Philadelphia 23d of Eleventh Month, 1851, and was buried at Abington. His wife's death occurred 20th of Fifth Month, 1864. She was buried beside him.

John J. and Lydia Williams had four children,—one daughter and three sons, all born and reared on the old homestead. Mary K., whose birth occurred 17th Sixth Month, 1824, is now living in Germantown, unmarried; Thomas, born 20th of Eleventh Month, 1826, resides at the old place; Jonathan K., born 25th Fifth Month, 1828, removed to Delaware, on a farm near Middletown, a short time previous to his father's death, and still resides in that State, owning one thousand acres of good land, which he cultivates (he married Fannie, daughter of Jacob and Margaret Shallcross); John Jay was born 17th of Second Month, 1838, being a young man at the time of the late Rebellion. He enlisted in the One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers; was very seriously wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, Fifth Month, 1864, which disabled him for several weeks. He was afterwards dangerously wounded at Appomattox Court-House, 8th of Fourth Month, 1865, the evening previous to General Lee's surrender, by a minie-ball passing entirely through his loins. It seemed impossible at the time that he could survive the terrible hurt; but with skillful surgery, careful and incessant nursing for weeks, with a vigorous constitution, he was able to rally and finally recovered sufficiently to engage in business. He later purchased a farm in Cecil County, Md., where he still resides as a successful farmer. He married Laura Peach, daughter of John and Eliza Peach.

THOMAS WILLIAMS.

The paternal genealogy of Thomas Williams' family having been already given in the preceding biography of John J. Williams, it is fitting that something should be said of the ancestry of his mother, whose maiden-name was Lydia Knight, daughter of Jonathan Knight, born Eighth Month 6, 1764, who married Mary Cleaver, daughter of Isaac and Ann Cleaver, born Sixth Month 12, 1771. This Mary Knight was one of those women destined to make the right kind of husband entirely contented with his condition. Though the family circle be increased by the addition of many children, still there is peace, plenty and prosperity abounding where such a wife and mother dwells. Such was the wife of Jonathan Knight, and such was their happy lot.

It is said mothers mould the nation and wield an influence for many generations. May it be the pleasure of a kind and merciful Creator that the good seed sown by this Christian mother may fructify and bring forth its good fruits in future generations! It is reasonable that Lydia, the mother of Thomas, was endowed with many of the gifted qualities which her mother developed.

Jonathan Knight, the grandfather of Thomas Williams, was descended from two very worthy English families,—Giles and Mary Knight and John and Mary Carver. Both families came to this country with Penn, on the ship "Welcome," in 1682. Jonathan was the son of Joshua and Sarah Knight. Joshua and John Knight, his brother, sons of Isaac and grandsons of Joseph Knight, were residents of Abington township during the Revolutionary war. They had strong affiliations with the mother-country and sympathized with the English, for which acts of disloyalty to the colonial government their property, embracing two hundred and forty-one acres in Abington, was confiscated in 1779 and applied to the support of the University of Pennsylvania. Their lives were threatened, which necessitated their leaving the country, taking their families to Nova Scotia with the exception of Jonathan, who was then a boy about fourteen years of age. His father desired to take him also, but his grandfather, with whom he lived, was unwilling to part with him. He therefore remained under the protection of his grandfather and a bachelor uncle then living in the same township, to whom the boy became very much attached. He requested his friends when dying "to bury him as near his Uncle Isaac as possible," at Abington burying-ground, which was accordingly done.

The birth of Thomas Williams occurred in Cheltenham township, Montgomery Co., Pa. It was his fortune to be born in moderate circumstances. Although it seemed to impose on him a burden of hardships and trials, it aroused a spirit of persevering industry which built up the physical condition of the man, while it tended to establish correct views of his general moral responsibility in all business and social

intercourse. Thomas Williams, Fifth Month 1, 1850, married Elizabeth A. Comly, daughter of A. Lukens and Margaret Comly, and granddaughter on the paternal side of Nathan and Elizabeth Comly. Her maternal grandfather was — Hallowell, both old and well-known families of Montgomery County. Thomas Williams and his wife had five children, two sons and three daughters, as follows: Comly, Sr., born Seventh Month 10, 1852, who died in youth; Mary K., born First Month 4, 1854, who died young; Comly, Jr., born Eighth Month 28, 1856, married, Second Month 2, 1882, to Ellen M. Walker, daughter of Thomas M. Walker; Mary K., born Eleventh Month 23, 1857, and married to Dr. William C. Powell; and Maggie, born 1860, who died when three years of age. Elizabeth, the mother, died Twelfth Month 10, 1865. She and all the deceased children are interred at Abington.

Thomas Williams married a second time, First Month 26, 1871, Susanna D. Nice, born Twelfth Month 2, 1838, daughter of William and Mary Nice. William Nice is a descendant of Anthony Nice, who came to this country from Wales about 1700 and settled in Nicetown, then called De Neustown. John Nice, the father of William, married Sarah Harper, the great-great-granddaughter of Thomas Roberts, who came to this country with Penn on the "Canterberry," arriving December 24, 1699, and took up about six hundred acres of land at York road and Fisher's Lane. Mary, the wife of William Nice, was the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Haslam, who came with their family from Bolton, Lancashire, England, in 1824, the former having been a manufacturer in Philadelphia. Susanna had six brothers,—George, Robert, Edward, Theodore, Thomas and William. George lost his life by an accident when a child. Edward enlisted in the One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and died from a wound received in the memorable battle of the Wilderness, May, 1864. Susanna has also a half-sister living, now the wife of Joel Price.

Thomas Williams and wife and their five children,—John Thomas, Edith, Robert N., Elizabeth and Lydia—are now living on the paternal "homestead farm," on Limekiln pike, in Cheltenham township. This property has been in the possession of the family for several generations, one deed from Conrad Conrad to John Williams for one hundred and thirty-three acres being dated 16th of Twelfth Month, (called February) 1716–17; consideration, one hundred and fifty pounds, lawful silver money of America. This deed is written and witnessed by Francis Daniel Pastorius. Another deed is from William Howell's heirs to John Williams for ninety-three acres, and dated 16th day of June, 1724; consideration money, eighty-five pounds, showing that land was low in price at that time in Cheltenham. This was at the period when John Williams, with his family, came from Merion Township to reside in Cheltenham.



David Heist



Geo. Branin

Thomas Williams' education was limited. The schools in the neighborhood, through the force of circumstances, did not maintain a very high standard, and much of his time was occupied with duties on the farm, the winter only being devoted to study. Later, however, for about two years, he became a pupil of a boarding-school and made satisfactory progress, especially at Hallowell's, in Alexandria, D. C. He has served as school director for twelve consecutive years in his district, and held many positions of public and private trust, all of which have been filled with fidelity to the interests of all concerned.

DAVID HEIST.

Henry Heist, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, with his wife, Catharine, came from Germany to the United States about the year 1753. Three children accompanied them, one of whom died on the passage and was buried on landing. Mr. Heist, soon after his arrival, settled in Goshenhoppen, Montgomery County. His son George was born August 3, 1754, at Goshenhoppen, Upper Hanover township, and died September 11, 1809, in his fifty-sixth year. Among his thirteen children was George Heist, father of David Heist, whose birth occurred December 29, 1781, in Upper Hanover, on the homestead farm, from whence he removed to Salsburg, in Northampton County, and later to Flourtown, in Montgomery County. He was united in marriage to Catharine Cope, of Hilltown township, on the 25th of March, 1806, and had sons,—Charles, Joseph and David, and daughters,—Mary Ann, Catharine, Elizabeth, Lavinia and Julia Ann. Mary Ann became Mrs. Henry Stout; Catharine, Mrs. Benjamin Fisher; Elizabeth, Mrs. Arnold Green; Lavinia, Mrs. William Coffman; and Julia Ann, Mrs. William Conover. The death of George Heist occurred May 20, 1855. David Heist, his son, was born January 17, 1810, in Salsburg, Northampton Co., and at the age of eighteen became a resident of Cheltenham township, where he at once engaged in the employment of a farmer, his opportunities for acquiring a thorough or even a rudimentary education having been exceedingly limited. He was married to Dorothea L. Ottinger, of Springfield township, and had children,—George D., married to Eleanor, daughter of Jesse and Ann Gilbert, who has five children; Henrietta (Mrs. Daniel H. Wentz), and Anna Cecilia (Mrs. Albert D. Wentz). Mr. Heist was a second time married to Margaret Lenhart, of Cheltenham, whose only child was Lizzie F. (deceased), wife of H. P. Appleman, of Bethlehem. Mr. Heist for twelve years after his first marriage leased a farm in Cheltenham township, and subsequently purchased property near Abington Station, to which he removed in the spring of 1847 and continued to reside upon until his death, when it became by inheritance the

estate of his son, George D. He received little aid in his early efforts, and by his own force and strength of character achieved a position of independence and marked influence in the community where he resided. He was for many years a director of the Limekiln Turnpike Company and active in promoting the business industries of the township. In politics he was a Democrat, but rarely participated in the active strifes of party or sought the honors of office.

Mr. Heist was a man of strong religious impulses and an active member, first, of the Lutheran Church of Germantown, and, later, of the church at White-marsh. His benevolent instincts led him to remember the latter church by a bequest, as also the Lutheran Church at Chestnut Hill. The death of Mr. Heist occurred on the 13th of June, 1881, in his seventy-second year.

GEORGE BRANIN.

Among the representative farmers of Montgomery County who have made agriculture a study and a success we find the name of George Branin. The first of his ancestors of whom anything definite is known was Francis Branin, who was born in Ireland about the year 1683, and emigrated to America some time previous to the birth of his son Michael, who was born September 9, 1708. On the 24th day of November, 1730, Michael Branin was joined in marriage to Elizabeth Norcross, daughter of John and Mary (Antrim) Norcross. Their son, William, was born December 15, 1749, and married, in 1778, Abigail, daughter of Abner Rodgers. William Branin died February 14, 1813. His son, Abijah, was born in the State of New Jersey May 9, 1783. On the 18th day of October, 1804, he married Mary Houston, daughter of John Houston, of Burlington County, State above-named. Their children were John, Elizabeth, Mark, William, Almira and Richard. He learned the trade of a blacksmith, which occupation he pursued until about the year 1821, when he removed with his family to Philadelphia County, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. Afterwards he purchased a farm in the township of Abington, Montgomery Co., Pa., upon which he resided up to the time of his death, which occurred August 18, 1855. John, the first of the family, was born in New Jersey on the 16th day of December, 1806, and with his parents came to Philadelphia County, and ultimately became a farmer. He married Ann, daughter of Samuel Jones, of Hatfield township, Montgomery Co., who married Hannah Clayton, a daughter of Richard and Margaret Clayton, whose maiden-name was Margaret Kenderdine, of Horsham township, in the last-named county. Their surviving children were Ann and Ruth. After his marriage John Branin lived on the farm of his father-in-law, Samuel Jones, which had been in his possession since 1797. On this farm John Branin died October 4, 1866. His wife died

December 13, 1884. Their only child, George, was born on the above-named farm December 30, 1833. After a period spent at the neighboring school he completed his studies at Treemuont Seminary, in Norristown, then under the charge of the late Rev. Samuel Aaron. On his return from school, Mr. Branin gave his entire attention to the cultivation of the farm, and on the death of his father assumed the management of the property, and still continues in that relation. On the 26th day of February, 1863, he was joined in marriage to Miss Ann Elizabeth, daughter of John Branin (who married Abigail Ann Jones), of Burlington County, N. J. Here a very singular circumstance occurred. Their fathers being of the same name and somewhat distantly related but unknown to each other, were both married the same day, month and year to women of almost identical names, each of whose father's name was Samuel Jones, but of no relationship or knowledge of each other. The surviving children of Mr. and Mrs. Branin are a son, John W., and a daughter, Ruth Ann. Another daughter, Marietta, died in infancy. Mr. Branin's political sympathies are with the Republican party, of which he is a staunch adherent, though he has never entered the arena of politics nor been diverted from the routine of duties incident to the life of a farmer. He was educated in the faith of the Society of Friends, and attends the Abington Friends' Meeting.

JOHN M. FENTON.

Eleazar Fenton emigrated from England to America in or prior to the year 1680, and settled in Burlington County, West Jersey. Of his family, Ephraim Fenton, his son, moved into Buckingham township, Bucks Co., Pa., and took up five hundred and forty acres of land previous to or in the year 1710. He died in 1748, leaving three sons,—Eleazar, Josiah and Samuel,—of whom Samuel, whose death occurred in 1796, was the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch. His son Ephraim married, in 1782, Mary Thomas, of Milestown, Philadelphia Co. (a relative of the painter, Benjamin West), and settled in Cheltenham township, Montgomery Co., where he died in 1826. The eldest of his eight children was Samuel, who married Mary Mann, of Upper Dublin township, Montgomery Co., and had one daughter, Harriet, married to Andrew Long, of Harts-ville, Bucks Co., and a son, John M. Fenton. Samuel Fenton was actively engaged in farming pursuits until his death, in 1862, at his home in Cheltenham. His son, John M. Fenton, was born on the 18th of May, 1810, on the homestead, which is now his residence. In 1843 he married Elizabeth W. Kennedy, of Abington township, whose three children are Samuel M. (deceased), Franklin K., and Hattie L. Mr. Fenton was elected treasurer of Montgomery County for the years 1856 and 1857. He has filled nearly all

the offices in Cheltenham township, being in official position continuously for forty years, ten years of which he was a justice of the peace. In politics he has always voted with the Democrats. He has been for many years a member of Abington Presbyterian Church; for thirty-six years a trustee and for seventeen years its treasurer. He has been president of the Limekiln Turnpike Company for twelve years, and is at present a director of the Jenkintown National Bank. Mr. Fenton has also acted as executor, administrator, trustee and assignee in the settlement of estates, beside being appointed guardian and having charge of several large trust funds.

ALBERT J. ENGLE.

Albert J. Engle, one of the most prominent business men of Shoemakertown, Cheltenham township, Montgomery Co., Pa., was born on his father's farm in what was then Bristol township, Philadelphia Co. (now merged in the city), January 2, 1826, where he made his home until he was twenty-four years of age, learning, in the meantime the honorable trade of stone-mason.

He was married, in 1849, to Miss Annetta, daughter of Joseph and Mary Megargee, of Cheltenham township, and in 1850 moved to Shoemakertown and engaged in the mercantile business in the old store that had for many years been occupied as a storehouse by Richard Shoemaker. After doing business in the limited quarters of the old Shoemaker store for a few years he purchased the old Tyson property, on which he built his present large and commodious store, which he has well-stocked with a large and well-selected variety of goods suited to the wants of the community around him.

He also remodeled the old Tyson mansion, making the comfortable, convenient and sightly residence he now occupies.

He has been prominently identified with all the progressive movements in and around the village of Shoemakertown. Although having held several elective political offices, he enjoyed the higher privilege of a seat in the council of the leaders of the party with which he affiliates and whose candidates he supports. His townsmen have honored him with a seat in the board of school directors of the township, which he still occupies with honor to himself and profit to the educational interests of Cheltenham. In 1858 he was appointed postmaster at Shoemakertown, which office he has held continuously to the present time (1885). Twenty-seven years continuous service in one official position is the lot of but few, and is the best evidence of Mr. Engle's fitness for the responsible position he now holds.

Mr. Engle is the father of children as follows: Anna M., born April 24, 1850 (married to William H. Parker, of Philadelphia, and is the mother of two son and two daughters); Mary E., born June 20,



John M. Benton

1852; Albert J., Jr., born January 4, 1854; William Megargee, born December 17, 1857, and died when about two years of age; Annetta R., born May 2, 1860; Frank, born December 15, 1861; Irwin J., born January 11, 1864; Olive May, born June 27, 1866, and died when two and a half years of age.

Mr. Engle's parents, Jacob and Elizabeth Engle, were aged and prominent residents of Bristol township, and lived near Cheltenham township line, on the farm that had been in the Engle family for three generations.

The parents of Mrs. Engle, Joseph and Mary Me-

north side of what is known as the Church road, and on the southeast side of what is now known as the Cedar road. The Church road was so named from the fact of its being traveled for a number of years by the late George Keith, then a celebrated minister of the Society of Friends, who preached at Oxford and at Whitemarsh. His oft-repeated journeys over this then crooked path gave it the name of Church road, which it has since retained. Cedar road was so named from the fact of there being a row of cedar trees on either side of the road for a long distance. It was in the angle of these two roads, and



A. J. Engle

gargee, were residents of Cheltenham township for over half a century, and owned the property on the North Penn Branch of the Reading Railroad, at what is known as City Line Station.

MRS. SARAH T. BETTS.

Mrs. Sarah T. Betts was a lineal descendant of William Thompson, who came to Cheltenham township in the early part of the last century and purchased one hundred acres of land out of the old Ashmead tract of two hundred acres. This one hundred acres lay on the

nearly a mile from what is now Shoemakertown, that Mr. Thompson located his one hundred acres, then considered a wilderness, but now one of the most pleasantly located and valuable farms in the township. William Thompson had also another lot of land lying along Tacony Creek, upon which he resided for many years, and upon which he died. Catharine, wife of William Thompson, died the 15th of the Sixth Month, 1786, aged about seventy-four years. Their children were Jessie, born the 26th of the Eighth Month, 1745, and died, unmarried, the 22d of the Seventh Month, 1778.

John Thomson (for so his name was written, he having dropped the letter "p") was born the 22d of the Twelfth Month, 1750; married Abigail, daughter of Thomas and Letitia Roberts, of Trumbauerville, Bucks Co., Pa., and died the 28th of the Ninth Month, 1838. His wife, Abigail, was born on the 28th of the Seventh Month, 1751, and died the 12th of the Tenth Month, 1802.

John, having outlived his father and brother, inherited the one hundred and the forty-acre tract of land.

Thomas, son of John and Abigail Roberts Thomson, was born the 30th of the Ninth Month, 1775, and died

Sarah, the subject of this sketch.

John, born the 1st of Tenth Month, 1810, and is still living. He inherited the one hundred and forty acres, owned by his great grand-father William Thompson, and is still the owner of the one hundred acre tract, having sold the forty acre lot.

Abigail, born 28th of Fifth Month, 1813; married John Wileman, of Langhorne, Bucks Co., Pa., and died the 23d of Second Month, 1868.

Elizabeth, born 20th of Sixth Month, 1816, and died the 21st of Second Month, 1817.

John, above mentioned, married 8th of Third Month, 1828, Caroline, daughter of Amos Jones, who was the



Sarah J Betts

the 26th of the Twelfth Month, 1825. Thomas inherited the one hundred and forty acres owned by his father, John.

The children of Thomas Thomson were as follows:

Ann, born the 19th of Third Month, 1800; married Jacob E. Jarrett, of Horsham township. Mrs. Jarrett is still living.

Hannah, born the 27th of Eight Month, 1802; married John Roberts, of Byberry, and died the 14th of Sixth Month, 1872.

Kitty, born 15th of Eleventh Month, 1804; married Richard Roberts, and died 21st of Ninth Month, 1880.

son of Amos Jones, of Cheltenham township. Caroline was born the 24th of Tenth Month, 1814, and died the 14th of First Month, 1877. Their children are as follows:

Charles, born 23d of Fifth Month, 1839; died 22d of Sixth Month, 1848.

Alice J., born 31st of Tenth Month, 1840; married Benjamin F. Penrose, of Quakertown, and now resides in Cheltenham township, on the farm adjoining the old William Thompson and the Ashmead tracts.

Thomas Thomson, born 28th of Second Month, 1842; married Miss Eyre, of Bucks County, and now occupies the old Thompson one hundred acre farm, and is

the fifth generation of the Thomson family that has continuously occupied the old farm.

Samuel J., born 30th of First Month, 1844, died 13th of Twelfth Month, 1882.

Jane, born 1st of Ninth Month, 1845.

Margaret T., born 6th of First Month, 1848; married Henry W. Hallowell, of Moreland township.

John, born 1st of Tenth Month, 1849, died 19th of Third Month, 1851.

William and George, (twins), died in infancy.

John, Jr., born 16th of Seventh Month, 1853, died 17th of Fifth Month, 1874.

sides on the Williams-Shoemaker-Betts homestead, Cheltenham township. Mr. Shoemaker died, and Sarah Thomson, his widow, married Cyrus Betts, of Solebury, Pa. Mr. Betts died, leaving only Mrs. Betts, whose portrait is herewith presented.

Mrs. Betts has been well and favorably known for the last forty years as a faithful and devoted minister of the Society of Friends. She was all her life, with the exception of a few years' residence in Bucks County, a member of Abington Monthly Meeting, and for the last forty years her residence was in Cheltenham township, where she was highly



John F. Lenhart

William P., born 24th of Second Month, 1855.

J. Dawson, born 1st of Second Month, 1858.

Sarah Thomson, the fourth daughter and fourth child of Thomas Thomson, was born the 8th of the Eighth Month, 1807, and married for her first husband Anthony Williams. The result of this union was four sons, viz.: Charles Williams, Edward H. Williams, Joseph Williams and Anthony Williams.

After the death of Mr. Williams she married Jesse Shoemaker, by whom she had one daughter, Sarah Shoemaker, who married Alvin Haines, and now re-

spected for her kindness and love towards all with whom she associated.

She died Third Month 3, 1885, in the seventy-eighth year of her age, leaving behind her a host of friends who revered her, and who had been the better for her life and precepts.

JOHN F. LENHART.

George Lenhardt, who was born on the 8th of March, 1754, emigrated from Germany to America, when seventeen years of age, in company with his brother Peter, their parents, with whom they sailed,

having died and been buried at sea. The boys were sold for their passage, George serving three years and nine months with Jonathan Tyson. At the expiration of this period of service he settled in Upper Dublin township, Montgomery Co., and engaged in lime-burning, as also in the purchase and sale of real estate. He was connected by membership with the Reformed Church of Germantown, in which he was an exemplary and active worker. Mr. Lenhart married Catherine Hoffinan, who died on the 31st of January, 1783. Their children were John, George, Jonathan and one who died in early life. He was a second time married to Christiana Kohler, whose

of the farm. On the death of his father, in 1845, he inherited a portion and purchased the remainder of the estate, the land of which he has since cultivated and greatly improved. He has paid much attention to horticulture, and won a reputation as a propagator of fine varieties of fruit, though also successful in other departments of agriculture. Mr. Lenhart was married, November 13, 1851, to Ruth, daughter of Joseph Addis, of Moreland township. Their children are Amy (deceased), Margaret (Mrs. John D. Stout), Joseph (deceased), Eliza (Mrs. Franklin P. Bryan), John and an infant (deceased). Mr. Lenhart is a director of the Limekiln Turnpike Company, fills the same office in



Thos. C. Yeakle

children are Mary, Henry, Joseph, Sarah, Christiana and Margaret. Joseph was born on the 30th of January, 1788, in Upper Dublin township, and in the year 1801 removed to the farm in Cheltenham township now owned by the subject of this sketch. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Funk, whose children are John F., Margaret (Mrs. David Heist) and Cathrine (Mrs. Isaiah Campbell, deceased). The death of Mr. Lenhart occurred on the 7th of January, 1845. His son, John F. Lenhart, was born November 25, 1821, on the homestead, where he has been industriously employed as a farmer during his lifetime, having in youth been made familiar with the labor

connection with the Willow Grove and Germantown Turnpike Company, and is one of the directors of the Keystone Stone Quarry Company, of which he is a charter member. He is a Democrat in politics, though not especially interested in questions of a political character. In religion he is a Presbyterian, his membership being with the Market Square Presbyterian Church, of Germantown.

THOMAS C. YEAKLE.

Mr. Yeakle is a lineal descendant of Christopher Yeakle (Jaekel), whose widow, Regina, came to America and settled in Pennsylvania in 1734, his an-

cestry having been elsewhere mentioned. He is the grandson of Jacob and Gertrude Urffer Yeakle, and the son of Joseph and Mary Huston Yeakle. The children of the latter marriage are John H., born August 12, 1853, who died March 7, 1854; and Thomas C., whose birth occurred January 19, 1855, in Springfield township, where the years of his youth were spent. He became a pupil of the public school near his home, and afterwards enjoyed superior advantages at Treemount Seminary, Norristown. On completing his studies he returned to the farm and became interested in its varied occupations, but later removed to Flourtown and engaged in mercantile pursuits. In

duties in connection with his own business leave little leisure for participation in enterprises of a public character.

SAMUEL M. WILSON.

Frederick L. Wilson, the grandfather of Samuel L., was by birth a Norwegian, and captain of a vessel wrecked off the coast of Ireland. By his marriage to a lady of Irish lineage he had one son, William, whose residence was in the immediate vicinity of Londonderry, in the north of Ireland, where he filled the office of land steward, and was also an industrious



S. M. Wilson

1877, preferring the healthful employment of the agriculturist to a sedentary life, he purchased the valuable property in Cheltenham township now owned by him, and has since been numbered among the successful farmers of the township. Mr. Yeakle was married, on the 7th of February, 1878, to Emma C., daughter of Joseph Stahlnecker, of Flourtown, whose children are Lizzie and Mary Emma. He was again married, in November, 1882, to Emma, daughter of Jessie McCoombs, of Montgomery County. Their only child is a son, Thomas C., Jr. Mr. Yeakle is in politics a Republican, though not ambitious for the honors of office. He is a supporter of the Presbyterian Church of Flourtown. His daily routine of

farmer. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Mackey, of Londonderry, whose children were Robert, Samuel M., William, Elizabeth, James, Joanna Mary and John. The death of Mr. Wilson occurred in 1854, in County Donegal, Ireland. His son, Samuel M., was born on the 12th of January, 1840, near Londonderry, in the latter county where the first eighteen years of his life were spent, a portion of this time being devoted to acquiring a modest education and assisting in the labor of the farm. Being impressed with the superior advantages offered the workingman in America, he decided to emigrate, and in 1858 sailed alone for Philadelphia. He readily found employment on a farm in Bucks County, and served for

eighteen months in that capacity, when Montgomery County became his home. For six years his industry brought a comfortable support, principally as a farm laborer, after which, in 1866, he rented a farm, and for six years cultivated it successfully. During the four succeeding years Mr. Wilson was engaged in the grocery business in Philadelphia, after which he removed to Edge Hill and became proprietor of a country store, holding also the commission as postmaster of the place. Having previously invested capital in mining enterprises, he determined to devote his exclusive attention to the mining of hematite ore. In

GEORGE K. HELLER.

Mr. Heller is of German descent, his grandfather, Christopher Heller, having emigrated from Germany to America, and settled in Northampton County, where he founded the hamlet of Hellertown. Here he engaged in farming. Among his children was Daniel, born in or near Hellertown, who afterwards became a farmer in Bucks County. He married Margaret, daughter of Henry Scheetz, Esq., of Whitemarsh township, Montgomery Co., whose children were Catharine (Mrs. Jacob Wentz), Elizabeth, Sarah (Mrs. Samuel Nice), Ann (Mrs. George McClelland),



G. K. Heller

this industry he is still engaged, his energy and business tact making him one of the important factors in the development of the ore-beds of the county. Mr. Wilson was, on the 28th of November, 1862, married to Margaret, daughter of Robert Bustard, of the same county. Their children are Anna Mary, Ellen D., Margaret, Samuel M., George, Jane, Maria, William and Lizzie. Mr. Wilson's political sympathies are with the Republican party, although he is rarely active in the field of politics. He accepts the creed of the Baptist faith, and is a member of the church of that denomination in Jenkintown.

George K., Mary (Mrs. John M. Jones), Margaret (Mrs. Robert H. Hinckley) and Hannah (Mrs. Samuel Nice).

George K. Heller was born March 14, 1803, in Springfield township, Montgomery Co; to which township his father removed from Bucks County. The common school afforded at this early date the only opportunities for education. These, however, were improved by him, after which, for eleven years, he engaged in teaching in Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties, respectively. Desiring a less sedentary life than that of a teacher, he purchased a farm

in Cheltenham township, which for twenty-two years he cultivated, and at the expiration of that time, having abandoned active labor, he sold his farm and retired to his present residence, in the village of Cheltenham, in the same township. Mr. Heller was married on the 10th of March, 1829, to Sarah, daughter of John Nice, of Philadelphia County. Their children are Charles, of Philadelphia; Margaret H. (Mrs. Dilworth Wentz), of Cheltenham; Elizabeth (Mrs. Dr. H. B. Buck), of Springfield, Ill.; and George N., of Philadelphia. Mr. Heller formerly affiliated with the Democratic party, but later became a Republican. He has been identified in various relations with the township, having for a period of thirty-three years filled the office of school director of Cheltenham and been one of the first agitators of the public-school system in the township. He was also director of the Independent Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Mr. Heller's known ability and integrity have caused his services to be much in demand as guardian and trustee, more than forty estates having been settled by him or through his aid. For forty-six years he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and for more than forty years recording steward of the same church.

THOMAS T. MATHER.

The subject of this biographical sketch, Thomas T. Mather, traces his lineage through a line of worthy ancestors, who espoused the belief of the Society of Friends. His father was Jonathan Mather, who married Elizabeth Tyson, of Edge Hill, Montgomery Co., and had children,—Sarah (Mrs. Newlin Schofield), Mary Ann, Thomas T., Hannah M. (Mrs. William Stapler) and Eleanor. Thomas T. was born on the homestead, in Cheltenham, where his father was a successful farmer) on the 7th of February, 1814. This property, which is now occupied by his widow, subsequently became his by inheritance and purchase, and was the scene of his lifetime labors. His education was superior to that obtained by most of the youth of the vicinity, schools in Montgomery County and also in Wilmington, Del., affording him the advantages of a thorough scholastic training. His mathematical mind here found an ample field for development, and enabled him to take high rank in the science in which he was proficient. Not desiring to follow a professional career, he returned to the home of his parents, and devoted his attention to the employments of a farmer. He was well versed in the science of horticulture and skillful in the propagation of choice varieties of fruit, the nature and growth of which he thoroughly understood. Mr. Mather, while gratifying his taste in this direction, was also a successful farmer, and thoroughly practical in all his business undertakings. He was married, on the 3d of December, 1856, to Rachel G., daughter of William and Susan G. Nicholson, of Philadelphia. Their children are Jonathan, Elizabeth (Mrs. I. W. Lin-

ton), Susan N., Sarah, Eleanor, William N., Rachel, Jr., Thomas T., Jr., and William N., (second). Mr. Mather, though diligent in matters pertaining to his private business interests, exhibited much public spirit and a laudable zeal in all measures tending to the welfare of the county of his residence. He was a director of the Jenkintown National Bank, a director in the Germantown National Bank, and held the same official connection with the Limekiln Turnpike Company. His acknowledged ability and probity led him frequently to be suggested for positions of trust, notable among which was that of treasurer of the Chelton Hills Mutual Improvement Association. Mr. Mather was in politics, a Republican, and courageous in the defense of any principle of the party, while indifferent to the official positions which are the rewards of party service. He was an earnest advocate of the Free-Soil doctrine, and cast the earliest vote in the township in its favor when that question was first agitated. He was educated in the belief of the Society of Friends, and never departed from the faith, having been a member of the Abington Monthly Meeting at the time of his death, which occurred on the 21st of June, 1877. Mr. Mather was a man of marked influence in the community, not less for his judgment and executive ability than for the elevated sentiments which actuated his whole life.

CHARLES B. WRIGHT.

Charles B. Wright, who has been for the past twenty years a resident of Cheltenham township, was born January 8, 1822, in Wysox Valley, Bradford Co., Pa., to which place his parents had emigrated from New London, Conn., in 1814. His father, Rufus Wright, who was a currier by trade, had (with a number of other Connecticut people) intended to settle in the Wyoming Valley, but was afterwards induced to locate at Wysox, where he established the first tannery that was put in operation in the valley of the Upper Susquehanna. In that business he continued with success until the year 1830, when he removed to Tioga Point, or (as better known in later years) Athens, Pa., where he was connected with the business of the toll-bridge across the North Branch of the Susquehanna River. Five years later, when Charles was thirteen years of age, his father removed to a farm located about five miles from the river, on the uplands in Smithfield, Bradford Co. Until that time Charles had been kept at the Athens Academy, but after his removal with the family to the farm he only enjoyed the advantages of the winter terms of the common school for the completion of his education. He had sisters older and younger than himself and an elder brother, who was engaged in business in the West. On him, therefore, his father principally relied for assistance on the farm, and he was constantly employed in the work required upon it, except during the winter season. The farm was well adapted for the purpose of stock-raising, and this business his

father made a specialty, having a large number of cattle, sheep and horses. Charles became an expert rider, and made frequent trips on horseback to the village, two miles from the farm, to market the butter, eggs and other produce, and to purchase the store-goods necessary for the use of the family,—sometimes including ammunition for his shot-gun. On these trips the young farmer usually rode a fleet horse, of which there were always several in his father's pasture, and he seldom returned home without having had a race with some of the boys or men of the surrounding county, who could always depend on his being ready to engage in that kind of amusement.

In the spring of 1837, on one occasion, when young Wright was engaged in trading his butter and eggs at the village store, he was particularly noticed by a gentleman who was visiting there from the eastern part of the county, and who, after the lad's departure, made inquiries of the merchant concerning him, receiving very favorable replies. On the following day he visited the Wright homestead, and, in the absence of the boy and his father, informed Mrs. Wright that he was the proprietor of a trading-post, or store of general merchandise, at Le Raysville, on the border of Susquehanna County; that he had seen her son, and being very favorably impressed by his appearance, had come to offer him a position as clerk in his store. This information Mrs. Wright imparted to her husband and son on their return, and by the boy it was received with delight. During the second year of their residence on the farm he had begun to grow restless. The growth of the crops was too slow a process for him; it was taking too long a time for the steers (which his father had given him) to become oxen; in short, the quiet farm-life had begun to be distasteful to him, and he therefore eagerly urged the acceptance of the merchant's proposal.

Mr. Wright, however, opposed it, telling his son that he wished him to remain on the farm, and in a few years to assume its management. The mother also opposed the plan, but Charles reasoned with her, begging so earnestly that she finally gave her assent, which also secured that of her husband, though both yielded in the full belief that homesickness would very soon bring their boy back to them, to settle down and be contented with the farmer's life. The next day Charles met the merchant at the village, where the arrangement was made for him to go to Le Raysville in about thirty days. At the end of that time he took the stage (then the only means of conveyance), and after a long day's ride reached the place of his destination, tired, sad and already feeling the pang of homesickness, which, however, was soon dispelled on meeting his employer's wife, a kind and pleasant lady, who had no children, and who received him cordially, assuring him that he was to be one of their family trio. Afterwards, for a little time, symptoms of homesickness returned at intervals, but he resolutely repressed them. He had read the "Life of Benjamin Franklin,"

and from it he had learned the lesson that only by perseverance in his undertakings could he hope to win success in the world. He kept steadily on, winning the confidence of his employer, who, in 1841, gave him an interest in the business, he being then only nineteen years of age. He continued in the business two years longer, but at the age of twenty-one years, having become restless and desirous of entering a wider field of enterprise, he decided to leave Le Raysville and travel in the Western States, a part of his plan being to visit his sister, Mrs. William Spaulding, who was then residing in the new town of Janesville, Rock Co., Wis.

His purpose having become known to Christopher L. Ward, president of the Bank of Towanda, the latter invited him to visit him before his departure. He did so, and while at Towanda Mr. Ward and the other directors of the bank intrusted him with the charge of important landed interests in various parts of Illinois and Wisconsin, and in Chicago, which at that time was a town of only five thousand inhabitants. With this trust, and the most sanguine hopes, the young man started for the West early in May, 1843. At that time such a journey as he proposed to make, was regarded as so serious a matter that on his departure he was bidden good-by by many of his friends, who believed that the farewell was to be a final one. Traveling by stage and canal for eight days, he reached Buffalo, N. Y., whence he proceeded by way of the Lakes, and was landed at Milwaukee in sixteen days from the time of his leaving Towanda. From Milwaukee to Janesville, sixty miles over mud roads, the conveyance was a mail-wagon which ran three times a week. After a stay of about two weeks, he traveled on horseback to Chicago, a distance of one hundred and thirty miles, much of the route being through a region where there were neither settlements nor roads, and where his only guide was his pocket compass.

Attending to the business with which he had been entrusted, he remained in Chicago two years. At the end of about that time he received intelligence of the death of his father, and returned to his old home in the Susquehanna Valley. The estate was soon settled, and he again set out for the West, having, while in Pennsylvania, purchased (on time) the lands of which he had had charge in Chicago and vicinity, and which, in consequence of the great western emigration in the years 1845-46, appreciated so rapidly in value that he was enabled to dispose of them during those years at a price which, after paying all his indebtedness, left him a profit of about ten thousand dollars, which was then a considerable fortune for a young man of twenty-four years.

In his travels, backward and forward, between the East and the West, Mr. Wright had repeatedly visited his mother's brother, Dr. Beebe, at Erie, Pa. There he formed the acquaintance of Miss Cordelia Williams, daughter of an old merchant of that place.



C. B. Wright

In August, 1847, they were married, and, in accordance with a condition exacted by the bride's mother, took up their residence in Erie; but in a few months the young wife was prostrated by a violent hemorrhage of the lungs, resulting in a lingering but fatal consumption. At Erie Mr. Wright was associated in partnership in mercantile business with his father-in-law, under the firm name of Williams & Wright. This was continued for about three years, after which they opened, at Erie, the first banking-house ever established in Pennsylvania northwest of Pittsburg. It proved successful, and Mr. Wright retained his interest in it for about eight years, though in the meantime engaged in other business enterprises. In 1855 he opened a branch of the Erie bank in Third Street, Philadelphia, and the business was continued under the firm-name of C. B. Wright & Co., Mr. Williams retiring from the concern.

In the year 1855, Charles B. Wright was made a director of the Sunbury and Erie (now Philadelphia and Erie) Railroad, representing the entire interest of the road west of the Alleghenies. In February, 1857, he sailed for Europe as bearer of dispatches from the United States government to its ministers at London, Paris, Rome, Naples and the Hague, and while engaged in the duties of this mission, and after they were completed, he made an extended tour of six months' duration on the Continent. While at Naples, Italy, he met Miss Sue Townsend, daughter of the late William Townsend, of Sandusky, Ohio. After his return to the United States he was married (in August, 1858), to Miss Townsend, at Sandusky. He then retired from the Erie banking firm, (which had been very successful in its business), and devoted most of his time and energies to the construction of the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, which was completed in 1863, and leased to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

During this period the discovery of oil had been made in Venango County, and Mr. Wright, with a few associates, commenced the construction of the Warren and Franklin Railroad, to run from a point on the Philadelphia and Erie line, near Warren, down the Allegheny River, to Oil City. This enterprise was quickly carried through, and the road was consolidated with the Oil Creek road, under the name of the Oil Creek and Allegheny River Railroad. Mr. Wright took sole charge of the finances of the company, as also of the auditing department, and he had supervision of the other departments. This road yielded an immense revenue for seven years, covering the period of the oil excitement in that region. In February, 1870, Mr. Wright sold the control of the road to the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, and on the 2d of March following, entered the direction of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, representing the five million syndicate raised by Jay Cooke & Co. This fund was the first money that went into the construction of the road, the amount being subsequently increased to more than twenty millions.

Since the autumn of 1873 perhaps no one connected with the Northern Pacific Railroad has given its affairs closer attention than the subject of this narrative. When the financial crash of that year fell upon the whole country Mr. Wright was acting in the capacity of vice-president. The financial agents had disposed of nearly or quite thirty millions of first mortgage bonds; the company had a floating debt of five million six hundred thousand dollars; there were about six hundred miles of completed road, including one hundred miles on the Pacific coast; some two hundred miles could not pay its running expenses, and, with hungry contractors, the situation was critical. To prevent the creditors from seizing the road by foreclosure, through the United States Courts at St. Paul, Mr. Wright, with his counsel, took prompt action before the United States Court at New York, threw the company into bankruptcy, and immediately asked for a receiver. The president of the road, General George W. Cass, was made receiver, and Mr. Wright was elected president. The fortunes of the enterprise were at their lowest ebb at that time; the company had no credit, and was pressed with debts it could not pay.

By skillful and conciliatory management Mr. Wright managed to retire the floating debt, trading the assets of the company, of various sorts, with the creditors for its obligations. He operated the road with great economy, so that it began to earn a steadily increasing surplus over its expenses. In 1876, to satisfy the people of Washington Territory that the company had not abandoned its original purpose of building a transcontinental line, he ordered work to be begun at Tacoma, on Puget Sound, and the portion of the Cascade Branch reaching from that town to the Puyallup coal-fields was constructed. It was important to promptly disarm the opposition to the company in Congress and on the Pacific coast, and Mr. Wright purchased the first cargo of iron for the new work on his own credit, the company having none at the time.

In 1877, Mr. Wright secured for the Northern Pacific a terminus in St. Paul, an important point which had been overlooked in the charter, by purchasing the franchise of a local Minnesota road, reorganizing the corporation under the name of the Western Railroad Company, securing for the Northern Pacific Company a majority of its capital stock and building a line from Brainerd southward to Sauk Rapids, a distance of sixty miles. He let this work, purchased the rails on his own responsibility, and in less than five months opened the connection between the main line at Brainerd, and St. Paul, a distance of one hundred and thirty-seven miles.

In 1878 the credit of the Northern Pacific Company had been restored to such an extent that a plan for resuming construction on the main line west of the Missouri River was adopted, and ways and means provided to build two hundred and ten miles to the Yellowstone River. A similar plan was also adopted

to construct two hundred miles from the head of navigation on the Columbia River, on the Pacific slope, to Spokane Falls. The whole four hundred and ten miles were at once placed under contract and pushed to completion.

In the spring of 1879 the long-continued strain for six continuous years had made such an inroad upon his physical condition that it became necessary for him to retire from his active duties, and, contrary to the wishes of the entire board of directors, Mr. Wright decided to be relieved from the responsibility as president, and on the 24th of May, 1879, addressed the following letter to the board of directors:

"GENTLEMEN,—Duty to myself and family compels me to resign my position as President of the Company. A long-continued strain upon me, mentally and physically, makes withdrawal for a time from active labor necessary to establish a condition favorable to the success of a critical operation which I am advised to have performed for the restoration of my sight.

"In retiring from the Presidency of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company I beg to express my gratitude for the confidence you have bestowed upon me during the entire period since the reorganization, and for the kind, considerate and efficient support you have at all times given to my efforts.

"My constant desire has been to see the affairs of the Company established upon such a basis as would, with due regard to prudence and safety, enable the work of construction to be resumed. And now it is highly gratifying to be able to say that the time has arrived when this great enterprise may be vigorously pushed, with every prospect of speedy completion.

"The finances of the Company are in a healthy condition. No cash liabilities exist, except those recently incurred for materials for construction, and to meet these ample means are provided.

"On the 19th of September, 1873, the Company's bills payable and other floating indebtedness amounted to five and a half millions of dollars. Many of these debts were of a peculiarly sacred character, such as wages due for labor, the cost of materials purchased on credit and for construction, moneys borrowed under circumstances that demanded payment on every principle of good faith. There was also a large amount due on the Pacific coast for wages and materials, which was afterwards increased by reason of the extraordinary efforts made to reach Puget Sound within the time limited by law.

"The larger part of these debts and liabilities of the old organization were secured by collaterals, which were of more value than the particular debts they severally secured; and so it was for the interest and advantage of the reorganized Company to pay these in order to protect and save the collaterals. I am happy to say that all these debts and liabilities have been settled and wiped out of existence, except that about \$40,000 (the payment of which has been postponed one or two years) has been carried to the account of Bills Payable in the new organization. The last matter in litigation growing out of that old indebtedness has been settled by the payment of \$500. The present financial condition of the Company is a subject on which you well may be congratulated.

"It is also a pleasure to me to say that my official and personal relations with the officers of the Company have been, without exception, uninterruptedly harmonious; and to each of them I extend my thanks and best wishes. Although I resign the office of President of the Company, my interest in its affairs will never be abated, and its future prosperity and final success will remain objects of my most cherished hopes.

"With great respect, I am,

"Yours faithfully,

"CHARLES B. WRIGHT, President."

In June, 1879, Mr. Wright sailed for Europe, where he made a somewhat extended tour for the restoration of his health. On his return home, in the autumn of that year, a committee of the directors of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company presented him with a handsomely-bound book, containing the following words, beautifully engrossed:

"The Directors of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company have listened with great regret to the announcement by their President, Charles B. Wright, of his resignation of that office. While the Board have not been unprepared for this decision on his part, they had hoped that it might not have been found imperatively necessary, but that Mr. Wright might have been able by temporary absence to have obtained the repose needed.

"It cannot but be a source of special sorrow to us all that the skillful and prudent pilot who took the helm in the darkest moments of the storm in which our company bid fair at one time to be engulfed, should now, spent by his labors for our enterprise, be compelled to quit the control and guidance of the company at the time when he has, by his caution, watchfulness and unceasing care, brought us into smooth and clear waters, and when every breeze seems to waft prosperity.

"This Board is deeply sensible of the obligations which both this company and ourselves owe to Mr. Wright. From the moment of reorganization he has labored unceasingly, and with absolute unselfishness, for the common good. He has never spared himself, nor has he sought for himself either profit or glory. He has even been satisfied not to receive honor well-merited for his services. If the company has obtained the benefit, he has not cared who reaped the praise.

"To have successfully brought the company to its present position has been a task which required talent of no common order. To rebuild the fallen edifice of credit, which, when once shaken, is the most difficult of all things to restore; to combine, as he has done, a thorough and searching economy, with the full maintenance of efficiency; to have preserved friendship where it existed, and to have conciliated almost every hostile element to be encountered,—these are indeed laurels to any administrator.

"But the directors are perhaps excusable for dwelling most at this time upon those qualities and characteristics of Mr. Wright which have most strongly come home to themselves. His uniform courtesy, urbanity and kindness; his readiness to listen fully and patiently to every one's view; his total lack of pride of opinion; his just and equal balance of mind, have so especially endeared him to those over whom he has presided for the past years that our personal regrets are as strong as those we feel for the great enterprise we have been laboring for together, and which now, for a season at least, loses the guidance of his firm and gentle control.

"FREDERICK BILLINGS, President.

"SAM'L WILKESON, Secretary."

Mr. Wright still continues an active director in the Northern Pacific enterprise. He is, perhaps, the largest individual owner, and devotes much of his valuable time to its interests. He is also president of the Tacoma Land Company, which owns the Pacific coast terminus of the Northern Pacific road. He takes a warm interest in the growth of Tacoma, and has recently erected in that city a beautiful memorial church as a monument to his deceased wife and daughter, and he has also endowed a school for girls, bearing the name of the Annie Wright Seminary.

For the past twenty years Mr. Wright has resided during about seven months of each year on one of the Chelton Hills, in Cheltenham township, his railroad station being that of the old York Road, on the North Pennsylvania line. He has at that place fifteen acres of land, worked and cultivated as a miniature model farm. There he has a fine country house and commodious stables, all built of stone and surrounded by spacious grounds, beautifully embellished. His Philadelphia residence is the mansion formerly occupied by William G. Moorhead, on the southeast corner of Chestnut and Thirty-ninth Streets.

ANTHONY WILLIAMS.

The direct line of descent from the progenitors of the Williams family in America to Anthony Williams



Anthony Williams

is John (first), Anthony (second), Anthony (third) and Anthony (fourth).

John Williams was born in Wales, in 1671, and came to America about the time of William Penn's advent here. His wife, Eleanor, was born in 1670, and died Second Month 21, 1736. John Williams died Sixth Month 13, 1740.

His son Anthony was born Sixth Month 11, 1711, and died 1793. His wife, Sarah, was born 1717, and died 1758.

Anthony Williams, son of Anthony and Sarah Williams, was born Ninth Month 30, 1743, and died Fourth Month 29, 1805. He married Rachel Jarrett, daughter of John and Alice Jarrett, of Horsham township, Eleventh Month 25, 1772. She died First Month 12, 1818. They were the parents of seven children, all of whom died young excepting Joseph, John and Anthony.

Anthony, son of Anthony and Rachel Jarrett Williams, was born Third Month 2, 1785, in Cheltenham township, and resided during his youth upon the homestead. After very limited advantages of education derived from the country schools near his home, he assisted his father on the farm until about twenty-one years of age, when he removed to a tract of land adjoining the homestead, purchased by the latter. On this he erected a dwelling which he occupied, and during the remainder of his life followed the pursuits of a farmer. He married Elizabeth, daughter of George Craft and Rebecca, his wife, Tenth Month 10, 1811. They were residents of Upper Dublin township. Elizabeth (Craft) Williams was born First Month 19, 1793. The children of this marriage are Rachel, born in 1812, who married John Hallowell (their children were Williams, Elizabeth and Frank); Reuben born in 1814, who died in 1843, having married Elizabeth Tyson, whose children are Lydia, George, Rebecca and Anna; George C., born in 1817, who died in 1884, his wife being Susan Stokes, to whom were born children,—Elizabeth, Israel, Frank and Harriet; Daniel, born in 1820, who died in 1821; Rebecca, born in 1822, who married Israel Hallowell, and has children,—Mary Anna and Henry; Jane, born in 1827, wife of Hallowell Twining, whose children are Fanny, Harriet, A. Williams and Watson (deceased, the last two being twins), Laura, Watson (second), Russell and Silas H.; Daniel, the youngest child, was born in 1830, and married Priscilla J., daughter of John and Tabitha Kirk, of Abington they have children Alfred K., Mary K., Edward C., Howard H., Walter and John K.

Anthony Williams was from the date of marriage until his death, actively interested in the cultivation of his farm, though its management during the later years of his life was transferred to his son, Geo. C. Williams. He was on all occasions public-spirited and earnest in the promotion of the best interests of society and diligent in the prosecution of his business, with

little inclination for speculative enterprises. He was in politics a staunch Whig and later a Republican, but did not aspire to official position in either township or county. As a man of undoubted integrity and business capacity, he wielded a commanding influence in the community. Anthony Williams was a birth-right member of the Society of Friends and worshiped with the Abington Monthly Meeting. His death occurred Second Month 15, 1868, in his eighty-third year, and that of his wife Third Month 31, 1875.

The parents of Elizabeth Craft, wife of the third Anthony Williams, were George Craft, son of Bernard Craft, who was born in 1764 and died Second Month 4, 1798, and Rebecca Tyson, daughter of Joseph Tyson.

Rebecca Tyson was born Second Month 14, 1767, and died Fourth Month 10, 1851.

George and Rebecca (Tyson) Craft, were married Sixth Month 10, 1790.

CHAPTER LIII.

DOUGLAS TOWNSHIP.

THIS township is situated in the northwestern part of the county, adjoining Upper Hanover, New Hanover and Pottsgrove townships. It also adjoins Douglas, Colebrookdale and Washington townships of Berks County. The area is fifteen square miles, or nine thousand six hundred acres. The population, as shown by the census of 1880, was sixteen hundred and seventy-six. The surface is rolling, the soil red shale. The natural or surface drainage is good, and perpetual springs rise in many places, forming the head-waters of streams known as the Swamp, West Branch of Perkiomen and Middle Creeks. There is considerable fall in these streams in their passage through the township, affording water-power and mill-sites, which are utilized for the convenience and advantage of the farmers, many of whom are remote from railroad stations.

In the year 1701, William Penn conveyed to his son, John Penn, a tract of twelve thousand acres of land, bounded and described as follows, viz.:

"Beginning at corner of the German's tract of land on the bank of the Schuylkill and on the east side thereof, and extending north forty degrees east 3420 perches to a hickory tree, near the west branch of Perkiomen creek; thence, crossing said branch, north fifty degrees west 620 perches; thence out; south forty degrees west 3840 perches to the aforesaid river, and thence down by the same on the several courses 840 perches to the place of beginning."

Thirty-four years later (1735) John Penn sold and conveyed his interest in this tract to George McCall, a merchant then residing in Philadelphia. Upon a new survey, McCall found the tract to contain two thousand and sixty acres more land than the grant was supposed to describe. The price paid was two thousand guineas. For several years thereafter this purchase was known as "McCall's Manor," and

subsequently as Douglas township. It appears to have been decreed a township as early as 1741, when fifty-eight 'taxables were returned to the commissioners' office, at Philadelphia, as permanently located on improved lands therein. In 1776 the township appears to have been generally settled, as Colonel Burd's battalion of infantry troops was credited to it, and are referred to incidentally by the Rev. Henry M. Muhlenberg, whose journal contains the following: "August 16, 1776,—Colonel Burd's battalion, from Douglas township, marched past, among which there are many members of our congregation from Pottsgrove and New Hanover, who took leave of me with emotion." The population in 1810 was 687; in 1830, 941; in 1850, 1265; in 1870, 1604; in 1880, 1676.

In 1785, the year following the creation of the county and before the township of Pottsgrove was in part cut off from it, this township returned, among other taxable property, four hotels, four grist-mills, five saw-mills, one paper-mill, one tannery and one forge. Its boundaries then, however, extended to the Schuylkill River, and one of the mills and the forge referred to were located upon the portion cut off and known as Pottsgrove township and Pottstown borough. There are three villages in the township, Gilbertsville, Douglas, and Engleville. Post-offices are located at the two former, and recently a third post-office has been established in the northern part of the township, close to the Berks County line, known as Niantic post-office. Gilbertsville is a large and flourishing village, containing sixty-six dwellings, including the hotels and stores.

Among other industries usually carried on in an inland village such as wheelwrighting, smithing, plow-making, carpet-weaving, tinsmithing and carpentering, there are also a great many segars manufactured at this place. It is noted as a place where frequent public sales of horses and live stock are held for the accommodation of the agriculturists of that vicinity.

The following places of public business were returned by the mercantile appraiser for the year 1884: A. L. Bausman, dry goods; — Bechtel, merchandise; Matthias Custer, live stock; V. B. Emery, live stock; — Eschbach, tobacco; Eshbach & Weand, live stock; J. Fegley, merchandise; Charles Fegley, live stock; A. Gresch, coal and lumber; F. B. Geyer, live stock; Jonathan Geyer, live stock; J. Himmelwright, flour and feed; Hillegas & Hoffman, dry goods; J. J. Leinbach, boots and shoes; Leidy & Ritter, live stock; J. Matthias, butcher; H. Renninger, live stock; F. A. Streicher, merchandise; Robert Taggart, feed; Amandus Weand, live stock; Yerger & Ritter, butchers.

The farm land of this region is in a high state of cultivation and very productive. Modern machinery is generally used by skillful laborers, and crops are harvested in a husbandman-like manner. Among the improvements that distinguish this and other town-

ships in the northern part of the county are the substantial residences and commodious barns that are the pride of the characteristic German farmer; most of the barns are built of stone or brick, and conspicuously ornamented, having noticed some located on the prominent highways so neatly painted as to leave the impression in passing of actual brick-work. Public roads traverse the township in all directions, one of the main thoroughfares being the Colebrook and Limerick turnpike. Other highways of equal importance run parallel to and at right angles with it, all of which are kept in good order and repair, with bridges and plank and stone culverts placed over all the creeks and streams of any importance to public travel. In recent travels over this township we observed that the supervisors fulfill their duties with fidelity in keeping in place index boards at the many and important cross-roads,—a matter of great importance to the traveler from a distance.

Educational.—The common-school system is in operation, and increasing in popularity. There are ten schools, having an enrolled attendance for the year 1884 of four hundred and thirty-two pupils. The term taught is five months. The teachers receive a salary of thirty dollars per month. The school-houses are substantially built, easily ventilated, and all have ample grounds for the recreation of the pupils. Although the German language is generally spoken in the daily intercourse of the people of this region, and the religious worship of the two churches in the township is partly conducted in the same language, yet all the instruction in the common schools is in English. All the teachers employed in this township are males.

Religious Worship.—There are two established places of public worship in the township. The one known as Huber's Church, Lutheran, is located at or near Niantic; there is a large congregation in regular attendance upon this church, which is a substantially-built edifice, with a seating capacity of from three to four hundred persons. The present pastor is the Rev. L. Groh, who resides in the borough of Boyerstown, Berks Co. The burial-grounds are ample, well inclosed, and evince commendable care for the many dead who are buried within the inclosed grounds. The other church referred to is located at Douglas. This church unites the Lutheran and Reformed congregations of that neighborhood. The pastor is Rev. William B. Fox. It is eligibly located in the midst of an agricultural people and is largely attended. The burial-grounds are well inclosed, and exhibit that care and solicitude for the dust and memory of the dead that everywhere prevails among the kindly-hearted German people of this region.

Elections.—This township was first created an election district by act of Assembly approved April 16, 1827. The first election was held at the public-house of Abraham Stetler. The township was di-

vided into two election districts by decree of the Court of Quarter Sessions dated March 5, 1873; these districts are designated East and West Douglas.

Taxables and Taxable Values.—Number of taxables, 464; value of improved lands, \$792,335; value of unimproved lands, \$47,560; number of horses and mules, 361; number of horned cattle, 773; assessed value of all cattle, \$50,245; total value of taxable property for county purposes, \$890,140.

CHAPTER LIV.

FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP.

FRANCONIA is situated in the northeastern part of the county, joining Bucks County on the northeast, and joining Upper and Lower Salford and Hatfield townships on the west, south and east. Its area is 14,875 square miles, or 9520 acres. The surface is generally level, but sufficiently undulating to be susceptible of surface drainage into the headwaters of the Skippack and Indian Creeks, both of which flow through the township, affording light but useful water-powers and mill-sites. The East Branch of the Perkiomen Creek flows along the northwestern boundary of the township.

The name Franconia is derived from an old duchy which afterwards formed a circle of the Germanic Empire, and signifies "Land of the Franks," whence also France. On Holme's map of 1682 it is called "The Dutch township," from which we infer that the Germans were its earliest settlers.

In 1734 the township contained thirty-four taxables and land-holders, nearly all German. Amongst these may be mentioned John Fry, 150 acres; Henry Rosenberger, 125; Jacob Oberholtzer, 150; Christian Meyer, 150; Ulrich Hunsberger, 150; Jacob Hunsberger, 50; Frederick Gottschalk, 100; Michael Bing, 75; Michael Hentz, 100; George Hartzel, 50; Andrew Barndt, 75; Henry Barndt, 100; Frederick Sholl, 100; Jacob Bayard, 100; and John Wilhelm, 50. Most of these have descendants residing in the township.

Christian Meyer arrived in 1727; Frederick Sholl in 1728; Hans Jacob Oberholtz, George Hartzel and Ludwig Hartzel, Hans Michael Wilhelm and Johannes Fry in 1730; and Jacob Oberholtzer in August, 1732. These, perhaps, all came from the Palatinate or Pfaltz.

One of the first settlers of the township is said to have been Christian Funk, who settled on Indian Creek, below the mill of George S. Reiff. The Souders of the township are descended from his family, and some of the name are still in the township.

Leidy's tannery, one mile south of Souderton, was founded in 1780 by Jacob Leidy, grandfather of the present proprietor.

In 1785, there was one tavern licensed, two grist-mills, one tannery and two slaves assessed.

In 1794, George Bilger, a tax collector for that year, returned ninety-six owners and occupiers of improved lands in the township. Seventy-three of the number are assessed for taxable valuables over two hundred pounds, and twenty-three for sums less than two hundred pounds.

The tax assessed was for the purpose of "defraying the public expenses of the county." The total sum of duplicate was seventy-four pounds, five shillings and two pence. In addition to this tax laid upon real and personal property, the sum of three pounds and ten shillings was laid upon eleven *single men*. This latter subject of taxation seems so remarkable in these days that we give place to their names: George Hertole, Jacob Landes, John Hunsberger, George Cope, Christian Hunsberger, Abraham Rosenberger, Abraham Moyer, Samuel Moyer, Christian Halteman and Joseph Smith. The law under which these young bachelors were taxed was general throughout the State at the date of this assessment. Among the assessed land-holders of 1794, were John Althouse, George Bilger, Henry Berndt, Isaac Bergey, Christian Benner, Samuel Brode, Captain John Cope, Peter Conver, George Cressman, Henry Deitz, Peter Doub, Abraham Dulp, John Detwiler, Henry Fuhrman, John Fried, Jacob Gerhard, Andrew Hentz, George Hertzell, Christian Hunsberger, John Hackman, Jacob Hagey, John Kindig, Abraham Klemmer, George Kriebel, John Leister, Yelles Landes, Henry, Isaac, John and Benjamin Landes, John Leidey, Susana Moyer, John, Isaac and Christian Moyer, Abraham Neiss, Jacob Oberholtzer, Philip Oberdier, Jacob Oberdorf, Isaac, Henry, Christian and Jacob Souder, George Shoemaker, George Sholl, John Schwertly, George Schnieder, Andrew Schwartz, Jacob Wambold, Daniel Wambold, Michael Weirman, John Wilson, George Wunderlick and James Yocum. It will be observed, by reference to the tax duplicate of 1884, that many of these family names are to be found, doubtless descendants of those named; possibly some may be the progeny of the "Single men," who were made the invidious subjects of taxation, and thus hastened in their steps towards married life. The number of taxable persons has increased in a just ratio with values in this township. In 1734 there were 34; in 1741, 59; in 1828, 190; in 1858, 380; in 1884, 678. The estimated value of all real and personal property assessed in 1794 was \$127,470; the value as returned by the assessor for the year 1884 is \$1,456,330. The per capita taxable value to each person assessed in 1794 was \$1327, and in 1884 it was \$2148. The increase in population has been in like ratio,—in 1800 it was 629; in 1830, 998; in 1850, 1270; in 1870, 1950; and in 1880, 2556.

The last two decades seem to have been the most favorable of any in the history of this township; an increase of thirteen hundred and eighty souls, in a

total population of two thousand five hundred and fifty-six persons within a period of twenty years, argues well for an inland township. It is doubtless due, in some measure, to the opening of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, and the local commercial enterprise and village life brought with it. The following exhibit, as taken from the return of the mercantile appraiser for 1884, shows the capitalized energy and thrift of the Franconia people.

H. G. Barnes, live stock; A. H. Barndt, live stock; C. G. Barndt & Son, hay; C. G. Barndt & Son, flour and feed; B. C. Barndt, hardware; Clemmers & Alderfer, flour and feed; Clemmers & Alderfer, coal; Joseph Derstein, agricultural implements; Freed & Hackman, live stock; W. H. Freed, butcher; J. Frederick, boots and shoes; John A. Freed, butcher; A. H. Gehman, merchandise; John Gerhab, lumber; Enos Hagey, boots and shoes; H. F. Hackman, merchandise; G. Z. Hunsicker, flour and feed; S. D. Hunsberger & Brother, hay; S. D. Hunsberger & Brother, flour and feed; C. S. Hunsberger, jeweler; J. W. Hoff, merchandise; M. S. Kulp, live stock; S. D. Koffle, flour and feed; M. S. Kulp & Brother, lumber; M. S. Kulp & Brother, feed and corn; M. S. Kulp & Brother, hay; J. M. Landis & Co., merchandise; J. M. Landis & Co., furniture; W. Landis, butcher; Abm Landis, butcher; J. G. Leidy, merchandise; Moyer & Brother, flour and feed; Moyer & Brother, hay; George S. Reiff, flour and feed; A. G. Reiff, merchandise; Samuel Steiner, confectioner; L. L. Sholl, flour and feed; W. M. Souders, lumber; H. H. Souders, coal and lime; A. G. Stover, tobacco and cigars; William Wach, butcher; M. D. Zendt, merchandise.

The villages of this township are Franconia Square, near the centre; Franconiaville, in the southern end of the township; and Souderton and Telford, situated on the line of the railroad, in the eastern portion of the township. The post-offices are Franconia, Gehman's, Souderton and Telford.

The ground on which Telford village stands was bought, in 1737, by Conrad Detterer from Humphrey Murray. It embraces about one hundred and twenty acres, the greater part lying on the Montgomery County side, and quite early it became an important junction of public roads, what is known as the County Line road being opened in 1752. Since the location and construction of the North Pennsylvania Railroad it has become an important place of business, supporting the usual industries of a village,—wheelwrighting and carriage-making, smithing, tinsmithing, stone-cutting, harness-making, carpentering and cabinet-making. Mention may also be made of a steam planing-mill, a steam cheese-box factory and a steam agricultural repair-shop.

The County Line Hotel, in this village, was erected in 1857. The wash and bake-house still attached to the hotel was the first building erected in the village, and Jonathan Barnet, still living near the place, hauled

the first load of stone for its erection. There are stores and dealers in lumber, coal, feed, flour, hay and live stock, all of which attract to it the patronage of a fine agricultural neighborhood. There is also located here a large, brick Union Chapel, built in 1876, used principally for Sunday-school purposes. The railroad facilities have made the place desirable for residences, and the population now numbers about six hundred.

The village of Souderton is situated on the line of the North Pennsylvania Railroad and about twenty-seven miles distant from Philadelphia. It contains over one hundred residences, with all the industries and commercial thrift that mark the enterprising towns along this line of railroad from Philadelphia to Bethlehem. The Union National Bank of Souderton is located here. It was established in 1876 with a capital of ninety thousand dollars. It has been well managed, and is an indispensable institution to the community.

Franconia Square and Franconiaville are old-time land-marks, founded by the opening of hotels, stores, mechanical industries and post-offices, the origin of which is now scarcely known to the oldest inhabitant of the vicinity. The buildings of these old villages are plain and substantial, but have about them the evidence of the solid comforts and necessities of life characteristic of the unassuming and self-denying people who possess and inhabit them.

Educational.—There are twelve public schools in this township. There were five hundred and thirty-six scholars enrolled for the school year ending June, 1884; the length of time taught for the year named was five months. The salary paid to the teachers was thirty-five dollars a month. One of the number received thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents, one thirty-two dollars and fifty cents, and one thirty dollars per month. Male and female teachers are employed in these schools. The school buildings are plain but substantial, with ample grounds surrounding them and conveniently located with reference to population.

Taxables and Taxable Values.—Number of taxables, 678; value of improved lands, \$1,262,290; value of unimproved lands, \$27,515; number of horses, 518; assessed value of horses, \$39,620; number of cattle, 1051; assessed value of cattle, \$31,135; total value of taxable property for county purposes, \$1,456,330.

Religious.—The Indian Field or Zion's Lutheran Church is among the oldest Lutheran congregations in Pennsylvania, and was from the beginning entirely Lutheran. A log church was built about 1730, enlarged in 1766, and gave place to the present stone church in 1792, which, in 1868, received for the third time a new roof of slate. An organ was procured in 1820. A fire in 1834 unfortunately destroyed many of the old documents of the church. The creation of a congregation at Sellersville took away many members, but there were still, in 1878, two hundred communicants. As a part of the Goshenhoppen

charge, it has since 1753 been connected with the Ministerium of Pennsylvania. Some of the names of the early founders are still represented in the church,—Wambold (Wampole), Cressman and Rees.

The present constitution of the congregation was adopted in 1836. The existing church record was begun in 1753 by Pastor Frederick Schultz. The earliest pastor known was John Conrad Andraea, who came to this country from Zweibruecken in 1742, landed in Philadelphia, and soon settled at Goshenhoppen. He assumed charge of Goshenhoppen, New Goshenhoppen and Indian Field Churches, where he remained until 1751. In that year Lucas Raus began service as catechet under Pastor H. M. Muhlenberg's direction. He closed his services in 1752, when the Rev. Frederick Schultz became pastor and served until 1763, when Rev. John Joseph Roth succeeded him. From 1768 to 1770, Rev. John Michael Enterlein was pastor. From that time to the present it has been served in connection with the Old Goshenhoppen Church, and since 1865 served by the Rev. Frederick Wolz, who also has charge of the church at Sellersville.

The Reformed Church on Indian Creek was founded in 1753 by the Rev. Jacob Rees, who was its first pastor, and began his labors June 3d, in that year. Among the founders of the church were John Nice, Jacob Arndt, Peter Gerhart, Jacob Leidy, John Schellenberger, John Henry Sellers, William Althouse and Abram Arndt. With the exception of Arndt, these families are all represented in the congregation at present. In 1754 the present church lot was purchased of Michael Bergey, and in that year a log church was erected. This was replaced, in 1775, by a rough-stone church, with a hip-roof, which was used till 1826, when the third church, forty-two by forty-eight feet, also of stone, was erected. The present church, forty-two by sixty-five feet, was built of brick in 1879, and is still used. The Rev. Jacob Rees remained as pastor from 1753 to 1766, and was succeeded as follows: Revs. Christopher Gobrecht, 1766 to 1772; Caspar Wack, 1772 to 1780; John Theobald Faber, 1780 to 1787; John Michael Kern, 1787 to 1788, and died; Nicholas Pomp, 1788 to 1796; Jacob Lenn, 1796 to 1818, and died; John Andrew Strasburger, 1818 to 1854; Joshua Derr, 1854 to 1858, P. S. Fisher, 1858 to 1871; Jacob Kehm, 1871 to the present time. The church has a membership of four hundred.

What is known as the Leidy Reformed Church, is located below Souderton, and was built in 1858. A school house was there and a graveyard over one hundred years ago. The school-house was also used for public worship. Its members were from Indian Creek Church, of which it was for a time a part. Its pastors have been Revs. P. S. Fisher, and J. G. Dengler, the latter of whom is still in charge.

The first Menonite meeting-house in Franconia township was of stone, and built between the years

1730 and 1750. The second, also a stone house, forty-five by seventy-five feet, was built in 1833, and has a seating capacity of over seven hundred. The present membership is between four hundred and five hundred. Bishop Josiah Clemmer was elected in 1861.

The Souderton meeting-house, was built, in 1879, of brick, forty-three by fifty-three feet. The Leidy's Church was built in 1858. A school-house and graveyard were there over one hundred years before, the school-house being used for public worship.

Elections.—By act of the General Assembly, approved March 16, 1847, the township of Franconia was first formed into a separate election district, and by the terms of the act the elections were ordered to be held at the store-house of Daniel L. Moyer. By a subsequent act approved April 26, 1850, the elections were ordered to be held at the public-house of Tobias Gerhart.

The postmasters of Souderton have been William Souder, W. B. Sleifer and M. D. Zendt, the present one; of Telford, T. S. Weird.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

J. TREMPER.

The paternal grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch was a native of the north of Europe, whence he emigrated to America before the war of the Revolution, and settled on the banks of the Hudson River, in the province of New York. After the close of the war he removed to Philadelphia, where he made his home until his death, which occurred some years afterwards. His youngest son, Henry, engaged in commercial pursuits in Philadelphia, and became one of the prominent merchants of the city during the latter part of the last, and beginning of the present century, amassing a large fortune, and retiring from business in 1811. He was a large owner of real estate in the city, and he also, in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. Maley, purchased and owned large tracts of valuable land in the Mohawk Valley and more western parts of the State of New York, one of which was a tract of about twelve hundred acres, which had been embraced in the Royal Grant of "Kingsland" to Sir William Johnson, and including the "Johnson Hall" mansion, which had been the home of Sir William and, after him, of his son, Sir John Johnson, and which, at the time here referred to, was the residence of Mr. Tremper's brother-in-law and partner, Mr. Maley. Within the walls of that manorial mansion Mr. Tremper and Mr. Maley debated their projects, and from it they set out to explore the Seneca country and view the rich lands of which they became the purchasers. Mr. Tremper, however,

did not live to carry out the plans which he had formed for the development of his land projects in New York. He died in Philadelphia in 1826. The family residence at that time was in the west part of the city, to which they had not long before removed from the house which Mr. Tremper had occupied during the years of his active career as a merchant. It was located on Front Street, north of Market, Front Street being at that time the most important street of the city.

J. Tremper was born in the Front Street mansion in the year 1805. He obtained his preparatory education in the principal schools of the city, and afterwards studied law in the office of the learned Peter S.

Seneca Lake, which place was reached in the evening of the fifth day from Philadelphia.

Prior to the commencement of the present century Philadelphia was the monetary centre of the country and the home of the leading capitalists, the principal of whom was Robert Morris. A number of Philadelphians, among whom was Henry Tremper, were members of what was called the Lessee Company (under the old Genesee Land Company), who had obtained from the State of New York a great tract of nine hundred thousand acres of land, lying west of Seneca Lake, and which, with what was known as the Robert Morris Purchase, extended westward to within



J. Tremper

Duponceau. Upon the death of his father (he being then twenty-one years of age) it was thought necessary for him to go to the State of New York to take charge of the large landed interests there, which formed a large part of the estate of Henry Tremper, as has already been mentioned. He set out on the journey (which at that time was considered a long and difficult one) in the fall of 1826, starting from the "Swan" stage-house, in Race Street, above Third. The route was by the way of Bethlehem and Wilkesbarre (passing the scene of the Wyoming massacre of 1778) to Montrose, Pa.; thence to Ithaca, N. Y., and from there to Geneva, at the foot of

about twenty miles of the Niagara River. The settlement at Geneva had been made under the auspices of the Lessee Company. When Mr. Tremper went there in 1826 it was still a new town, but many of the settlers were people of education, and all were kind and hospitable. From Mr. Bogert, the resident professional agent, and from Captain Remer, the lay agent of the owners, Mr. Tremper received much kindness and consideration. Upon his arrival he was pleasantly domiciled in the family of Dr. Hazzard, whose mansion was surrounded by a noble farm of twelve hundred acres. The adjacent forests, the beautiful lake, the brisk young town, with its genial and hospitable people,

offered attractions which rendered the prospect of a protracted stay at that place far from disagreeable to the young Philadelphian. Afterwards he purchased a fine farm, having a frontage of one mile on Seneca Lake, with a mansion situated within fifty yards of the water's edge. There he made his home during the years of his residence in Western New York.

A short time after his removal to Geneva, Mr. Tremper was admitted to the bar and subsequently as counselor in the Supreme Court of New York, as also in the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. In 1838 he was appointed by Governor William L. Marcy judge of the courts of Ontario County, and at the expiration of his term was reappointed, but before the close of his second term, on receiving intelligence of the death of his mother, he resigned the office and returned to Philadelphia to attend to the settlement of the estate. From that time he resided in the city until 1873, when, to be free from its turmoil and to realize his life-long desire for country life, he purchased and removed to the property on which he now resides, in Franconia township. Now, when just entering on his ninth decade, he can review the events of the past with much of satisfaction in the belief that his long life has been well spent.

CHAPTER LV.

FREDERICK TOWNSHIP.¹

FREDERICK TOWNSHIP is bounded on the northwest by New Hanover and Upper Hanover townships; on the east by Perkiomen Creek, flowing from north to south, separating it from Marlborough and Upper Salford townships; on the southeast by Perkiomen township; and on the southwest by Limerick and New Hanover townships. It contains an area of thirteen thousand four hundred and forty acres, is about five miles wide on the northwest border, four and three-quarters miles long on the southwest, and one and one-half miles wide on the southeast. Its centre is fifteen miles distant northwest from Norristown, the county-seat, and thirty-two miles from Philadelphia.

Throughout the township strong springs issue from the slopes and in the valleys, and are the sources of a number of streams which flow through and enrich the land. Deep Creek falls into the Perkiomen in the north, and Swamp Creek from the northwest and Mine Run from the south enter it in the south. The tributaries of Swamp Creek are Old Goshenhoppen Run and Society Run. The surface of the township is decidedly rolling, verging to a hilly character; but it is well adapted to farming in all parts except in the north, where the Deep Creek hills attain considerable

eminence, and in the southwest, between Swamp Creek and Mine Run, where rise the bold and rocky Stone Hills. The soil in the western portion, embracing the broad and fertile valley between Swamp Creek and Society Run, is red shale, easy of cultivation and free from stones; on the plateau between Society Run and Old Goshenhoppen Run, including the eastern slope of the last-named stream, being the central part of the township, it is a white clay; and the eastern section, inclining towards Perkiomen Creek, is a yellow, sandy soil, somewhat encumbered with bowlders. All the tillable sections have been brought by the untiring industry and thorough husbandry of the inhabitants to a high state of cultivation and productiveness. Perkiomen, Swamp, and Deep Creeks possess remarkably interesting and picturesque features. At their junctions the scenery is notably striking and rugged. The swift-flowing waters of these streams, dashing over and between smooth-worn stones or falling over the numerous dams which check their free course, furnish beautiful views, worthy of the artist's pencil. In the past they abounded in fish, and they are yet frequented by lovers of fishing from near and far. The primitive forest has almost entirely disappeared. On the high grounds of the township grow oak, hickory, ash, walnut, chestnut, butternut, maple, gum, tulip-poplar, hemlock, pine and spruce, besides the smaller growths, sassafras, dogwood, wild cherry, persimmon, spice-woods, juniper, sumac, elder and hazel, and the blackberry, whortleberry, raspberry, sheepberry and strawberry. In wet places the mottled-rinded buttonwood or water beach may be found, towering to a great height. Along Swamp Creek grows a species of hickory bearing nuts of extraordinary size and of hard, thick shell. On Deep Creek and its affluents spruce and other evergreens grow to the exclusion almost of other trees. The land here is inclosed and devoted to grazing young cattle, which are driven into the pasture—called in the Pennsylvania German, *Baschtert*—in the spring-time and left without further attention until fall.

The villages in the township, none of which are incorporated, are Zieglerville, Frederick, part of Perkiomenville, Klein's or Frederick Station, Obelisk and Delphi or Zieglerville Station.

Zieglerville, in the southern portion, is located on the Perkiomen and Sumneytown turnpike, at the point where the Great road diverges from it to the west, while the turnpike continues towards the north. It was, before the building of the railroad, an important meeting-point for stage lines. Here the passengers from Pennsburg and Boyertown met three times each week, and were transferred from small, antiquated coaches to the commodious and stylish omnibuses drawn by four or five horses; and here on the alternate days the returning passengers were again separated and sent their different ways. The inn, located on high ground in the forks of the road, and facing to the south, was an old-time house of genuine

¹ By Henry S. Dotterer.

entertainment to the traveler and drover; it was of breadth disproportioned to its two-story height, and a welcoming piazza extended before its entire front. A modern building of brick has taken the old tavern's place. At present the village contains one general store, a post-office, two blacksmith-shops, one wheelwright-shop, one tinsmithery, one tannery, one school-house, two clothing-factories, one shoemaker-shop, one tavern, one saw-mill, one flour-mill, forty-four dwelling-houses and about two hundred inhabitants. A lodge of the Knights of Pythias meets here. A German weekly newspaper, the *Wahrheits Freund*, was published here in 1858.

Frederick village, on the Great road, near the northwestern line of the township, is about half a mile long. It contains a post-office, one general store, one creamery, one blacksmith-shop, one tannery, thirteen dwelling-houses and about sixty inhabitants. The Green Tree tavern is located at its lower end.

The village of Perkiomenville is located in the northeast, on both sides of Perkiomen Creek, which is here spanned by a fine stone bridge. The larger part of the population is in Marlborough township. It consists, in Frederick, of a post-office, one general store, one tavern, an Odd-Fellows' Hall, a creamery, wheelwright-shop, eight houses and about sixty inhabitants. A lodge of the order of Odd-Fellows meets here. This vicinity is a favorite resort for camping, fishing and hunting-parties, and during the heat of summer the hotel here, kept by Isaac Rahn, is patronized by city residents, who come out to enjoy the bathing in Perkiomen Creek and the natural attractions of the locality.

Frederick Station, on the Perkiomen Railroad, is a compactly built village of about one hundred and fifty inhabitants. It contains a post-office (Klein's), a hotel, a general store, a lumber and coal yard, one feed store, a clothing manufactory, planing mill, blacksmith shop, one sugar factory, two grist mills, one saw mill, and twenty-one dwelling-houses. Christian Allebach has lately fitted up a large hall for the purpose of holding religious services in this place.

Obelisk, in the central portion, on the Great road, derives its name from the post-office established here. In it are contained Keeler's church, one general store, one tinsmithery, one school-house, one clothing-factory, twelve dwelling-houses and sixty-five inhabitants.

Dolph is the name of the post-office at Zieglerville Station, on the Perkiomen Railroad. The village is on the Perkiomen and Sumneytown turnpike. It is located at the romantic point where Swamp Creek flows into the Perkiomen, at the foot of the rugged Stone Hills. The natural attractions here have made this a place of summer resort. A fine four-story hotel—the Weldon House—has been built for the accommodation of visitors. The village has one feed-store, coal and lime-yard, hay-press, a saw, grist and oil-mill, one tannery, one brick-yard, seven dwellings and about fifty inhabitants.

The Perkiomen Railroad skirts the southeastern border of the township, following the course of Perkiomen Creek, a distance of about one and a half miles. Two of its stations—Zieglerville Station and Frederick Station—are in the limits of the township.

The Perkiomen and Sumneytown turnpike road was completed in the year 1847, and extends through the township from Schwenksville *via* Zieglerville to Perkiomenville, a distance of somewhat more than four miles. The company was incorporated February 14, 1845, by act of the State Legislature. At the first election of officers, held at Perkiomen Bridge, March 14, 1846, the following were elected: President, Henry Longaker; Managers, William Schall, Jacob Snyder, George Poley, Jacob Johnson, Jr., Abel Kerr, Henry Ziegler, Aaron Schwenk, William Worrall, Abraham Hunsicker, David Beard, Joseph Hunsicker and Abraham Steiner; Secretary and Treasurer, John Steiner. John H. Steiner was secretary and treasurer from 1852 to 1862; Daniel D. Hunsicker, from 1862 to 1866; Abraham G. Schwenk, in 1867; George W. Steiner, 1867 to the present date.

The capital stock is eighteen thousand and fifty dollars. This sum was not sufficient to build the road, and a debt burdened the company until about 1875, when the last of it was paid. The company declared its first dividend in 1876, and has paid dividends annually since that time.

The road extends from Perkiomen Bridge to Green Lane, a distance of twelve miles.

The present officers are: President, Abraham G. Schwenk; Secretary and Treasurer, George W. Steiner; Managers, Michael Alderfer, Henry Snyder, Gideon Fetterolf, Thomas B. Hillegass, John B. Landis, Jesse Cressman, Mark Hildebeitel, A. H. Seipt, Jacob G. Schwenk, William A. Welker, Evans P. Koons and J. A. Strassburger.

The headquarters of the company are at Zieglerville, where the elections are held.

Erection of the Township.—Up to 1731 the territory now comprised in Frederick was without an official name and without a local government. It was known as Falkner Swamp, in common with the remainder of the extensive region drained by Swamp Creek and its tributaries. With the influx of settlers the necessity of civil authority became manifest. The following petition was made as a remedy for this want:

"To the Worshipfull the Justices at the Quarter Sessions held at Philadelphia for the County of Philade, the first day of March, 1730-31.

"The Petition of the Inhabitants living Between Limrick township and Perkiomy.

"Humbly sheweth.

"That there are Settled a great many families on the North East side of Limrick township, between the same & Bebbes's township & Salford, & are bounded on the northwesterly side with New Hanover township. The Tract of Land on which your Petitioners & many more are settled is Supposed to be about Seven miles long & five miles broad.

"Now forasmuch as your Petitioners' case is such that they think it is too great a Circuit for a Constable out of any of the aforesd townships & also inconvenient in making and Repairing of highways, And your Petitioners living on the sd Tract of Land are humbly of opinion that it

would be more Convenient for them that the same tract of Land was laid out for a Township.

"Therefore your Petitioners, both for the publick good & their own Conveniency, Earnestly Desire that you will be pleased to take the premises into your Serious Consideration, and order a Township to be laid out & Established Between the fores^d Townships according as you shall think fit, And your petitioners shall thankfully acknowledge your favour in the premises, and be obliged Ever to pray, as in the duty bound.

"Georg Phillib Dodderer.
William Frey.
Andrew Frey.
Han Ludwig Engelhart.
Balthas Fauth.
Jacob Fauth,
Friederich Reimmer.
Michael Hörricher.

Gottlieb Herger.
Johann Ludwigh Dederer.
Thomas Addis.
Hanns Michell Doderer.
Henrich Stetler.
Joseph Groff.
Hans Crauss."

Appended to the petition was a draft of the township. The court granted the prayer, and made the following indorsement thereon: "The Petition hereunto annexed being taken into Consideration by the Court, the Prayer of the sd Petition is Granted, and the Township is now named Frederick Township." This simple record does not answer the question sometimes asked: After whom was the township named? The name was probably selected because it had been borne by the German emperors in the Middle Ages, and because the petitioners were, with perhaps one exception, of Teutonic stock.

Early Purchasers.—The circumstances connected with the taking up of the large tract of twenty-two thousand three hundred and seventy-seven acres by the Frankfort Land Company, a large portion of which lies along the northwestern border of Frederick township, naturally brought that territory into special prominence. The powerful influences put to work by the German company, seconded most heartily by the proprietary, drew settlers, immigrants from Germany, speedily to that vast property; at first, to the banks of Schuylkill, at and about the mouth of Manatawny Creek, and soon after, in much larger measure, to the broad valley of Swamp Creek. The lower or southwestern part of this alluvial plain lies in Frederick township. As soon as the impetus given by the organized effort in Germany had somewhat spent its force, the immigrant now and then chose for himself land along the banks of the lower Swamp Creek and of Society and Old Goshenhoppen Runs. Here, beside the clear springs and sparkling stream, close to the green meadows, he dug a cave in the sloping banks or built a rude hut for a dwelling-place.

Before the arrival of the actual settler, however, the choicest portions of land had passed from the proprietary into the hands of purchasers and speculators of England and Philadelphia, from whom the pioneers made purchases.

By patent dated the 8th of Fourth Month, 1703, there was granted to Nathaniel Puckle a tract of four hundred and fifty acres, extending from the north-eastern line of Limerick into the Stone Hills.

By virtue of a warrant dated the 21st of Tenth Month (December), 1716, there was laid out to James

Shattick five hundred acres, part of a great tract which William Penn granted to Richard Pearce on May 4, 1682.

David Powell, who, on the 8th of Eighth Month (October), 1683, was appointed deputy surveyor by Thomas Holme, the surveyor-general, had surveyed to him, as "part of three thousand acres of land back in the said province (Pennsylvania), near or on the Branches of Perkeawming," under warrant dated September 10, 1717, two tracts of two hundred acres each, and on December 7, 1717, a tract of one hundred and fifty acres.

Before March 25, 1720, John Henry Hagerman purchased of David Powell two hundred acres of the four hundred acres surveyed to the latter September 10, 1717; this was confirmed to him by the proprietors May 23, 1728. Henry Antes purchased one hundred and twenty-five acres of this tract in 1735, at which date Hagerman was a resident of Lancaster County.

March 25, 1720, James Steel, of the city of Philadelphia, purchased five hundred acres, near a "Branch of Parkeawning," from William Clayton, of Chichester, to whom it had been surveyed under a warrant dated April 14, 1718, "in full satisfaction of a demand by ye said William Clayton against the Proprietary in or about the year one thousand seven hundred, for part of the land granted by ye said Proprietary to the Swansons in lieu of the ground whereon the city of Philadelphia is built." On the 17th of December, 1728, the commissioners of property confirmed this sale.

October 26, 1720, Hans Neucs bought of John Budd and Humphrey Morrey seven hundred and twenty-five acres (part of the five thousand acres granted by William Penn, on the 12th of October, 1681, to William Bacon), of which five hundred acres were surveyed and located on the 1st day of November, 1720, in Frederick township, on both sides of Society Run, and facing the Frankfort Land Company's tract.

September 1, 1727, the proprietaries granted by patent to Henry Pannebacker, of Bebbler's township, six hundred and twenty-two acres, located at and about the junction of Swamp Creek and Society Run.

Pioneer Settlers.—John Michael Herger, weaver, on the 7th of February, 1717, purchased of James Shattick five hundred acres. On the 1st of March, 1726, he sold to his son, Gottlieb Herger, eighty acres; and on the same date, to John George Sprogell, one hundred and twenty acres. Previous to this date he had made sales to Martin Funk and Joseph Groff. Michael Herger was naturalized by act of Assembly May 19, 1739. He moved to Conewago, where he died in 1740. His wife's name was Anna Margaret. Gottlieb Herger was a resident of Frederick township as late as 1755, or later. John Herger, a resident of Frederick township, was born in America on the 6th of May, 1721; married Maria Salome, daughter of Frederick Reimer; died December 5, 1795, and is buried, as is also his wife, in Leidig's private cemetery.

Andrew Frey, mason, on August 5, 1718, purchased two hundred acres of David Powell.

Henry Grubb, on the 27th of September, 1718, bought one hundred and fifty acres of David Powell. This land was located on the banks of Society Run, below the five hundred acres bought by Hans Neues in 1720. He died in February, 1726, leaving his real and personal estate to his wife, Catharine. On the 22d of March, 1737-38, the widow, who had in the meantime married Jacob Frick, conveyed to her eldest son, Henry Grubb, the plantation formerly of the deceased, which, by a re-survey, was found to contain but one hundred and forty-nine acres. On November 11, 1734, there was surveyed to Henry Grubb, Jr., a tract of sixty-two and one-half acres adjoining the plantation lately owned by his father. On the 26th of April, 1743, Henry Grubb, Jr., and Anna Maria, his wife, conveyed to Conrad Grubb one-half of each of the above-mentioned two tracts. Conrad Grubb and Henry Grubb were naturalized at the April term of court in 1743. Susanna, born November 30, 1752; Henry, born March 26, 1755; and Jacob, born July 16, 1757, were children of Henry Grubb, Jr., and Anna Maria, his wife. In the private burying-ground of the family, beside Society Run, are the stones marking the graves of Conrad Grob, who was born February 9, 1715, and who died March 20, 1798; and of his wife, Anna Maria Grob, who was born in 1714, and who died in 1778.

John George Schietz was one of the appraisers of the estate of Henry Grubb (deceased) early in 1726. He owned land on the banks of Society Run previous to this date.

George Philip Dodderer, of Falkner's Swamp, carpenter, bought of Hans Neues, of the Northern Liberties, on December 22, 1722, one hundred acres, and on February 2, 1725, fifty acres, the two tracts adjoining and being located on the banks of Society Run. On the 29th of May, 1734, he bought from the proprietaries one hundred acres additional and adjoining his previous ownings. He made a will on the 19th of October, 1741, and he died on the 6th day of the following month. His wife, Veronica, survived him until 1752. Their children were Michael; Bernhard, who settled in New Hanover township; Anna Elizabeth, who married (first) Michael Zimmerman and (second) Jacob Körr; Hieronimus; Barbara, who married Jacob Markley, of Skippack; and Conrad. Hieronimus, son of George Philip Dodderer, died in November, 1727. He left a widow, Catharine, who shortly afterwards married Michael Krause, and two daughters,—first, Veronica, born January 7, 1725, married Philip Yost, died December 7, 1798; second, Agnes, born February 14, 1727, married Jost Bitting, died November 2, 1785. Conrad, youngest son of George Philip Dodderer, was born in 1712, and died in January, 1801. He succeeded to his father's estate and lived upon it all his life. His wife, Magdalena, to whom he was married in January, 1732, died August 21, 1797.

Their children were Christian, Jacob, Conrad (who, it appears from the best information at hand, married Margaret Pannebacker, daughter of Peter Pannebacker, of Skippack, and migrated to Frederick County, Md., and there founded an influential family), John (a citizen of Frederick township for many years, who was born November 26, 1751, and who died February 1, 1835), Abraham, Catharine, Christina, Susanna, Elizabeth and Magdalena (who married, February 23, 1786, Peter Cesterlein, of New Hanover township). George Philip Dodderer and his sons were naturalized by act of Assembly passed May 18, 1739.

John Nyce, on the 21st of September, 1724, bought of his father, Hans Neues, of the Northern Liberties, two hundred acres on the west bank of Society Run, and fronting on the German tract. He made a will on the 5th of February, 1738-39, which was probated on the 22d of June, 1743, in which he appointed as his executors his wife, Mary, and Henry Antes. His plantation consisted of two hundred and ninety acres, and his entire estate, real and personal, was appraised at £913 6s., Pennsylvania currency. The children of John and Mary Nyce were John; Joel; Zacharias, born December 25, 1735; William; George; Susanna, who married Peter Fedele; Mary, who married, March 29, 1748, John Ringer. John Nyce, Jr., about the year 1747, married Catharina Hahn, and settled at Indian Creek; their children were Elizabeth, Philip, John and Abraham; he died about the year 1756. Zacharias Nyce married, in 1756, Margaret Hahn; their children were Maria, born December 13, 1758; Catharine, born April 20, 1760; Susanna, born March 9, 1762; Elizabeth, born February 15, 1764; Johannes, born June 3, 1767; Margaret, born November 30, 1777. They lived in Frederick township; he died at the age of fifty-six years and four days; his wife was buried September 7, 1798. George Nyce, who succeeded to his father's estate, was a tanner in Frederick township. He married (first) Anna Dotterer, daughter of Bernhard and Gertrude Dodderer, of New Hanover township; their children were John, Maria and Joseph. He married (second) — Fuhrman; their children were George (born February 15, 1760), Jacob, Nancy, Mary, Elizabeth, Catharine. He died December 5, 1789, aged sixty-four years. The name of this family is variously spelled, Nice, Nyce and De Nice. George S. Nyce resides upon a portion of the original homestead.

Michael Dotterer, of Falkner Swamp, son of George Philip Dodderer, on the 24th of January, 1726, bought of Hans Neues, of the Northern Liberties, one hundred and fifty acres on the east bank of Society Run, and facing the German tract, and on the 8th of November, 1734, the proprietaries granted him, by patent, fifty acres adjoining the foregoing. His wife was Anna Maria Fisher, daughter of Jacob and Sophia Fisher, an early settler of New Goshenhoppen, in Hanover township. Their children were Anna Sophia, born,

March 5, 1726; Anna Veronica, born September 5, 1727; George Philip, born August 30, 1729; John Conrad, born May 10, 1731; Maria Margaret, born June 27, 1733; Michael, born October 31, 1735; Jacob, born July 4, 1737; a son, born January 22, 1739; twins, born November 18, 1741, who died in infancy; Anna Maria, born January 4, 1745.

George Michael Kuntz arrived at Philadelphia on the 24th of September, 1727. He made an entry of the circumstance in his Bible (which is still in the possession of his descendants in Frederick township), in these words: "Den 24sten September im Jahr 1727 bin ich Georg Michael Kuntz gesund in America in der Stadt Philadelphia ankommen." He settled on lands along Swamp Creek, and married Eve Engelhart, sister to Ludwig Engelhart, on the 1st day of April, 1732. Their children were Mary, born November 12, 1734, who married John Stetler; Maria Catharine, born May 14, 1738, who married John Reimer; Susan, born October 24, 1740, who married Ludwig Reimer; George Michael, born July 7, 1742; Frederick, born July 6, 1744; John, born June 26, 1747; Catharine, born February 9, 1750, who married, first, Michael Krebs, and, second, John Richards; Elizabeth, born January 12, 1754, who married Jacob Zieber. George Michael Kuntz died August 10, 1759; Eve, his widow, died June 27, 1772.

John Ludwig Dederer arrived in the ship "Molly," from Rotterdam, and signed the declaration on September 30, 1727. He settled in Frederick township. In the book of New Hanover Lutheran Church is recorded the confirmation of three of his children on the 8th of April 1750, viz.: Zacharias, aged eighteen; Maria Barbara, fifteen; Anna Maria, fourteen.

Balthas Fauth was an early comer. In January, 1728, he was one of the bondsmen on the bond given by Catherine Krauss, administratrix and widow of Hieronimus Doderer, deceased.

Jacob Fauth, on the 25th of February, 1728, bought fifty acres of Henry Pannebacker, part of his tract of six hundred and twenty-two acres, and on October 9, 1728, fifty acres of Humphrey Morrey and John Budd.

Joseph Groff, "of Parkeyoming, weaver," on the 25th of February, 1728, purchased one hundred and twenty-five acres of Henry Pannebacker, part of the latter's tract of six hundred and twenty-two acres. Previous to March 1, 1726, Joseph Groff had acquired a portion of the five hundred acres purchased by Michael Herger on February 7, 1717. April 20, 1734, Joseph Groff obtained by patent two hundred acres on the west side of Perkiomen Creek, upon which he erected a grist-mill, for a petition was made on July 7, 1737, for a road from "a grist-mill lately erected by one Joseph Groff, at y^e upper end of y^e s^d township of Frederick."

May 1, 1728, Ludwig Engelhart obtained from Andrew Frey one moiety or half part of two hundred acres. On May 25, the same year, the commissioners of property confirmed the title. At the Supreme

Court held in April, 1743, Engelhart was naturalized. He moved afterwards to Germantown, where he died in 1783.

Michael Krauss, on the 9th of October, 1728, bought of Humphrey Morrey and John Budd one hundred and seventy acres on the banks of Swamp Creek. His wife was Catharina, widow of Hieronimus Doderer. Their children were George; Mary, married Peter Smith; Elizabeth; Salome, married Michael Renn; Catharine, married Jacob Beltz; Daniel; Michael.

Henry Stetler was granted, on December 20, 1728, by patent of the proprietaries, fifty acres of land. On June 7, 1729, he purchased of James Steel one hundred and nine acres, and on July 30, 1735, from the same party, one hundred and thirty-two acres. He was naturalized at the September court, 1740. Henry Stetler was twice married. The name of his second wife was Anna Mary Mayer, widow. His children were Anna Maria, married Joseph Kolb; Magdalena, married George Kolb; Barbara, married Peter Binkes; John, died December 30, 1812; Jacob; Henry, born in 1732, died May 9, 1780; Christian, born February 3, 1741, and died December 5, 1813; Abraham, Samuel, Susanna, Sophia. Henry Stetler died on the 16th of September, 1763, aged fifty-seven. He owned a plantation in New Hanover township, which, in his will, he ordered to be sold, and his plantation in Frederick township, upon which he lived in his lifetime, he gave to his sons, Jacob and Christian subject to the payment of certain legacies. Henry Stetler, the son, was a potter, as the following codicil to his father's will shows:

"I give to my son, Henry, Stetler one-quarter of an acre of land, that is to say it is the place where he fetches his potter's clay ever since he followed the potter's trade for his own; he is to have two perches broad and ten perches long, to begin at the clay-pit, or corner-posts, which I do set, and so forwards ten perches along the clay ground; and that he is to have during his life, not longer; after his death it is and shall fall back to the other land which I give to my sons Jacob and Christian, or to any one that dwells upon the land lawfully and agreeable to my testament; and my son Henry is to fill up the clay holes after he digged the clay, fit for the meadow, to mow or to be mowed."

Henry Stetler, Jr., left no male children. Christian Stetler, son of the elder Henry, was born February 3, 1741; married, March 4, 1765, Catharine Kurtz; died December 5, 1813. He was the progenitor of the Stetlers now residing in Frederick township. His wife died November 3, 1826. Their children were Hannah, born in January, 1769; Henry, born August 9, 1771; Philip, born November 22, 1773; Abraham, born June 11, 1780; Adam, born October 9, 1787.

May 22, 1729, "William Frey, of Parkeawming, yeoman," bought of James Steel two hundred acres, part of the latter's purchase of December 17, 1728, located in the western portion of the township. Ber-tolet's Mennonite meeting-house stands upon this tract. He was the son of Henry Frey and Anna Catharine Levering, who were married on the 26th of April, 1692, at Germantown, before Francis Daniel Pastorius, justice of the peace. It is stated that

Henry Frey came to Pennsylvania before the arrival of Penn. William Frey married Veronica Markley. Their children were Henry, married, January 25, 1756, Anna Maria Buerstler; William; Catharine, married John Gesel; Magdalena, married, October 16, 1745, Christopher Baus; Veronica, married Joseph Miller; Jacob, born January 1, 1726; Christina, married, February 16, 1748, Johann Heinrich Seegner; Matthias; Salome, married Christopher Hensel; Elizabeth. April 5, 1768, William Frey conveyed to his son, Jacob Frey, one hundred and fifty-seven and one-quarter acres, and about the same time, to Zacharias Nyce, the remainder of about forty-three acres. He died in the summer of 1768. He took part in the religious movement which grew into the Moravian Church, and his sons and daughters took positions of usefulness in the educational and mission work of that society. He is buried beside his wife, at Bertolet's Mennonite meeting-house. Many years after his death, when the correct date of that occurrence had been forgotten, the plain dwellers of the country side, void of sentiment, yet sensible of the respect due an even, upright walk, placed a stone to mark his grave, bearing the epitaph, couched in the dialect spoken there,—

"Zum
Andenken an
WILHELM FREY
Der erste ansidler von diesem
landgut er starb 1770 seyn
alter ist uns unbekand doch
war er hoch bejahlrt."

Veronica Frey, who afterwards was the wife of Joseph Miller, sailed from New York, on the 9th of January, 1743, for England, in the ship "Jacob," which carried a Moravian company, and she afterwards, with her husband, was stationed at the Brethren's institution in Germany. Jacob, son of William Frey, was a carpenter. On December 17, 1749, Jacob Frey was one of twenty-two single brethren, who left Bethlehem for Christian's Spring, in Northampton County. He married Susanna Sophia Bertolet, daughter of Jean Bertolet, a Huguenot refugee, who came to Pennsylvania in 1726, and settled in Oley. Their children were: Esther, first wife of Samuel Bertolet; Elizabeth, married, January 26, 1790, Samuel Bertolet (his second wife); Magdalena, married, November 5, 1792, Johannes Schlichter.

Henry Antes, an influential settler, came to the township early in 1730. His career is sketched elsewhere.

Frederick Reimer came from the Palatinate. He arrived in the ship "Thistle," and signed the declaration at Philadelphia on the 29th of August, 1730. On the 22d of January, 1731, he purchased of Henry Pannebacker one hundred acres, and on the 6th of August, 1736, of Joseph Groff, forty-one acres, one hundred and six and a half perches, both tracts on Society Run. On the 29th of March, 1735, he was naturalized by act of Assembly. He died early in

1758. His wife's name was Elizabeth. Their children were Elizabeth; Salome, born April 15, 1719, in the Palatinate, married John Herger, and died November 24, 1800; Susanna; Barbara; John Peter, married, November 28, 1752, Rachel Zieber; Johannes, married, January 23, 1760, Maria Catharina Kuntz; Ludwig, married, September 11, 1763, Susanna Kuntz; Anna Margaret; Catharina; Elizabeth, married Solomon Grimley.

Andrew Bayer arrived in the ship "Philadelphia Merchant," and signed the declaration September 11, 1731. He came from Grünstadt, in the Palatinate. He was naturalized on the 11th of April, 1749. He lived on the Perkiomen, near the present Zieglerville.

Thomas Addis, farmer, of Frederick township, died early in 1732. By his will, made January 2, 1731-32, and probated on the 14th of March of the same year, he bequeathed five pounds to "Saint James' Church, between Scheepack and Perchooman, on Manathana road side." He left a widow, Catharine, six married daughters, the eldest of whom, Catharine, was the wife of Henry Grubb, and one daughter, Elizabeth, under eighteen and unmarried.

John Miller, husbandman, on the 10th of August, 1732, bought of Humphrey Morrey and John Budd one hundred and twenty-five acres between Swamp Creek and Society Run, at the confluence of these streams. He was a practitioner of medicine. He was married, in 1732, to Elizabeth Frey, born in 1717, and a daughter of Henry and Anna Catharine Frey, maiden-name, Levering. Their children were Catharine, born November 8, 1733, married Henry Happel; Salome, born September 7, 1735, married Daniel Knauss; Elizabeth, born January 24, 1737, married Jacob Eckel; John, born February 7, 1738; Anna, born November 2, 1739, married John Marburger; Joseph, born November 2, 1740; Henry, born May 8, 1743; Anna Maria, born in November, 1744; —, died in infancy; Magdalena, born November 12, 1747; Jacob, born November 17, 1749; John Philip, born November 17, 1751; Christian. Dr. Miller died September 16, 1755; his widow died in 1758.

George Trumbauer, by virtue of a warrant dated 16th October, 1734, had surveyed to him, on the 6th of November, 1734, a tract of one hundred acres, bounded by lands of George Philip Dodderer, George Haan and Gottlieb Herger. Old Cowissioffin Creek (Old Goshenhoppen) ran through it from the northwest to the southeast.

Balthasar Heydrick came in 1734; he was one of the colony of Schwenkfelder refugees who came in the ship "St. Andrew," and arrived at Philadelphia on the 11th of September, 1734, O. S., and signed the declaration on the next day. On the 26th of June, 1735, he bought of John Jacob Fauth two tracts of land of fifty acres each, which were located between Swamp Creek and Society Run, extending from their junction along the former about one hundred and

seventy perches, and along the latter about two hundred and sixty perches. He was naturalized at the April sessions of Supreme Court, 1743. Balthasar and Rosina, his wife, had two children,—Christopher, died December 28, 1756; George, born September 22, 1737. Rosina Heydrick died October 23, 1738. Balthasar Heydrick married (second) Maria, daughter of Christopher Hoffrichter, May 15, 1741. Their children were Abraham, born November 5, 1742; Susanna, born October 5, 1745; Melchior, born October 23, 1747; Balthasar, born December 29, 1750 (was a captain in the Revolutionary war). Balthasar Heydrick died January 12, 1753.

George Heebner, also a member of the Schwenkfelder colony of 1734, settled immediately in Frederick. On January 28, 1736, jointly with Henry Antes, he purchased twenty-eight acres of land in New Hanover township, for the better accommodation of a grist-mill which had been erected upon the adjoining land, in Frederick township, of Henry Antes. November 5, 1736, he bought seventy-five and three-quarters acres in New Hanover township, on the Frederick township line. February 24, 1741, he purchased one hundred acres in Frederick township previously held by George Haan. He was naturalized May 19, 1739. January 14 and 15, 1742, a religious conference, led by Count Zinzendorf, was held at his house. He died November 3, 1773. He left a legacy of forty pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania to the son of his sister Mary, in Germany, "for a remembrance of his uncle." His sister was married to one J. Christopher Nicolai, at Görlitz, in Lusatia, gardener. One-tenth of the remainder of his estate he gave "to the school erected among the Religious Society called Schwenkfeldians, to be paid to the trustees of the school, to be applied by them to such purposes as the plan and articles of the school direct." One-tenth of his estate was also "to be paid into the alms-box of the people called Schwenkfeldians towards the relief of the poor among said people." George Heebner and Rosina Kriebel were married November 22, 1738, and had Melchior, born July 2, 1742, died December 21, 1744. Rosina Heebner died July 25, 1745. He married, May 16, 1749, Susanna Schultz, who died November 2, 1772, without issue.

John Heebner, a brother of George Heebner, also came with the Schwenkfelder colony. Before March 22, 1738, he acquired land in Frederick township, near Society Run. His wife's name was Maria. Their children were Hans, Melchior (who married February 11, 1752, and settled in Worcester township), Anna. John Heebner, while assisting his son, Melchior, in taking in the second crop of hay, fell from the wagon, and of the injuries received he died September 17, 1754.

Daniel Christman, who arrived in Pennsylvania September 5, 1730, bought of Martin Funk and Magdalena, his wife, on March 27, 1735, one hundred acres, and the following day sixty acres. These tracts were

located in Frederick township and had been purchased by Martin Funk previous to March 1, 1726; they were part of the five hundred acres bought by Michael Herger, February 7, 1717. Daniel Christman belonged to the Lutheran Church; he contributed five shillings towards paying for a bell for New Hanover Lutheran Church in 1748. His children were Anna Ella, married in December, 1749, Johannes Grob, who lived in Coventry township, Chester Co.; Felix, born in 1733, who moved to Vincent township, Chester Co.; Elizabeth, born in 1734; Jacob, born in 1737, died in Frederick township February 27, 1804; George, born 1739, a joiner, lived in Frederick township; Henry, born 1744, a saddler, lived in Vincent township.

The early settlers were mostly Germans. Their descendants and the present inhabitants retain the German language in the modified form known as the Pennsylvania-German dialect.

Statistics.—The first official list of taxables of Frederick township is furnished in the return made by the proprietaries' agent, in 1734, as follows:

Adam Barsteller, 25 acres; Michael Bastian, Ludwig Dotterer, Johannes Dillbeck, George Philip Dotterer, 150 acres; Michael Dotterer, 100 acres; Ludwig Englehart, 100 acres; Baltus Fauth, 100 acres; Jacob Fauth, 100 acres; Daniel Frantz, Wilhelm Frey, 150 acres; Jacob Fuchs, Martin Funk, 160 acres; Joh. Geo. Ganser, Christian Getzendomer, Joseph Graaf, 100 acres; Joh. Hein. Hageman, 100 acres; Michael Hendericks, Johannes Herb, Gottlieb Herger, 80 acres; Michael Herger, 200 acres; Adam Hill, Michael Hill, Paul Hippel, Martin Husacker, Johannes Kraus, 150 acres; Joh. Georg Kraus, 22 acres; Michael Kraus, 150 acres; Jacob Mecklin, Christian Müller, Johannes Neus (Nice), 200 acres; Abraham Pfennig, Frederick Keymer, 100 acres; Heinrich Schmidt, 80 acres; Christian Schneider, Joh. Geo. Schwenhart, 100 acres; Joh. George Sproggell, 120 acres; Heinrich Stettler, 140 acres; Christian Stettler, 50 acres; Heinrich Stover, 100 acres; George Trumbauer.

In 1741, Frederick township had seventy-six taxables.

In 1785 the taxables were:

Francis Bard, Jacob Bernger, Samuel Bertolet, Conrad Bickhard, Anthony Bittings, George Boyer, Henry Boyer, Jacob Boyer, Leonard Boyer, Philip Boyer, William Boyer, David Broog, Philip Brown, Valentine Buff, Joseph Butterweck, Jacob Christman, John De Haven, Jacob Detweiler, Conrad Dotterer, John Dotterer, Michael Dotterer, Philip Dotterer, John Faust, Peter Faust, John Ferer, Jacob Fingebiner, Charles Fox, Peter Gable, Mathew Geist, Godshall Godshall, Isaac Goschin, Michael Gougler, Conrad Grobb, Henry Grobb, Abraham Groff, Henry Groff, John Groff, Jacob Groner, Jacob Grubb, Conrad Haffenger, Elias Hartenstein, Henry Hartenstein, John Hartenstein, Jacob Hartman, Jacob Hlauck, John Heebner, Philip Heebner, Antony Herb, John Herger, John Hildebille, Peter Hofstat, Adam Hollenbush, Henry Hollenbush, Joseph Hollenbush, Balthasar Keiser, Michael Koons, Nicholas Koons, Christian Krause, Daniel Krause, Henry Krause, Michael Krause, Jr., Michael Krause, Sr., Adam Kugler, Jacob Kugler, Francis Leidig, Philip Leidig, John Ley, Martin Lightly, Thomas Mayberry, George Michael, Henry Miller, George Moore, George Nyce, Jr., George Nyce, Sr., Zacharias Nyce, Michael Esterlein, Jacob Pennybucker, John Reimer, Ludwig Reimer, Henry Roschon, Peter Roschon, John Rotenbacher, Henry Sassaman, George Scheffey, Michael Schillig, William Schlottner, Ludwig Schüttler, Frederick Schwartz, Abraham Schwenck, Daniel Schwenck, George Schwenck, Henry Smith, Jacob Smith, Benjamin Snyder, Valentine Snyder, Abraham Solomon, Christian Stettler, Jacob Stettler, John Sutton, David Underkoffler, Jacob Underkoffler, Jr., Jacob Underkoffler, Sr., Adam Wartman, Gottfried Wisler, Nicholas Wolfinger, George Woodley, Daniel Yost, John Yost, Jr., John Yost, Sr., Peter Yost, John Zieber, Martin Zieler, Gottlieb Zink, Tobias Zink.—114.

In 1800 the population was 629, which included 1 slave; the number of taxables was 132.

In 1810 the population was 828; taxes assessed, \$450.

The taxes assessed in 1816 were \$475.29.

In 1820 the population was 927, including 17 free colored persons.

In 1830 the population was 1047.

In 1832, the township contained 215 horses, 478 cattle 10,989 acres under cultivation, valued at an average of \$20 per acre.

In 1840 the census showed a population of 1217. Of these, 229 were employed in agriculture, 8 in commerce, 106 in manufactures and trades, 3 in navigation of the ocean, 5 in the learned professions; 2 persons were blind and 4 of unsound mind.

In 1850 the census returned 1431 inhabitants, of whom 17 were free colored; number of families, 268; number of dwellings, 232; taxes assessed, \$862.54.

In 1860 the population was 1783; taxes assessed, \$915.82; farms, 220; dwellings, 220.

In 1870 the population was 1818.

In 1880 the population was returned as 1944.

The persons who were appointed to offices in Frederick township prior to the beginning of the present century are given below,—

CONSTABLES.

1754, Henry Kraus and Henry Hartweck were appointed; 1755, Henry Kraus; 1756, John Umstadt; 1757, — Schmidt; 1758, John Herger; 1759, John Hevener, Michael Renn; 1767, John Jost; 1768, George Nyce; 1769, Peter Hauck; 1770, Conrad Grubb; 1772, Anthony Houser; 1773, George Michael; 1775, John Rymer and George Wateman; 1776, Henry Stetler; 1777, Adam Hollobush, Jr.; 1780, John Heebner, Henry Hollobush; 1781, Henry Kraus, Charles Zellner; 1782, Ludwig Reimer; 1783, Henry Sassaman; 1784, John Zieber; 1785, Philip Boyer; 1786, Christian Stetler; 1787, Matthias Geist; 1788, David Underkoffler; 1789, Philip Leidig; 1790, Peter Roshon; 1791, John Gougler; 1792, John Yost; 1793, John Nyce; 1794, — Bartolet; 1796, Francis Leidig; 1798, Jacob Underkoffler; 1799, Michael Dotterer.

OVERSEERS OF HIGHWAYS.

September 1754, Andrew Boyer and Jacob Whiteman were appointed; 1755, Felix Lea, Peter Ettleman; 1757, John Jost, George Michael; 1758, George Nyce, Jacob Underkoffler; 1759, Caspar Achenbach, Peter Werner; 1760, Henry Smith, Wendel Hoch; 1767, Henry Boyer, Michael Dotterer; 1768, Barnet Tytele, Peter Hollobush; 1769, Ludwig Schüttler, George Boyer; 1770, Philip Boyer, John Yost; 1773, Christian Stetler, George Weickert; 1775, Jacob Christman, William Boyer, Henry Boyer, George Schwenk; 1776, Michael Koons, John Heebner; 1779, Henry Sassaman, Philip Boyer; 1780, Jacob Detweiler, John Zieber; 1790, Abraham Graff, Michael Gougler.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

March, 1768, Zachariah Nyce and Jacob Underkoffler were appointed; 1769, George Deal, Christian Hollobush; 1770, Jacob Christman, Christian Stetler; 1772, Ludwig Reimer, Ludwig Schüttler; 1773, Michael Dotterer, Jacob Stetler, John Fried, Andrew Trumbauer; 1775, Adam Hollobush, William Boyer; 1776, John Hildebeidel, Henry Kraus, Jr.; 1779, Matthias Geist, George Zellner; 1780, Jacob Zieber, Jacob Underkoffler; 1795 Martin Detweiler, Henry Seipel.

The township officials at the beginning of 1885 are: Justices of the Peace, George W. Steiner, John H. Gottshalk; Constable, Ambrose S. Keeler; Supervisors of Roads, Henry Bolten, Jacob Welfly; Assessor, Isaac G. Grimley; Judge of Elections, N. W. Underkoffler; Inspectors of Elections, James Bernhard, Jacob D. Daub.

In politics the views of the citizens of Frederick accord with the principles enunciated by Jefferson and Jackson, and held by the Democratic party. For many years after the establishment of our present form of government and the erection of the county the voters of a group of a townships held their elections at one polling-place. Frederick township was attached to that district which voted at Krebs' tavern, in New Hanover township. The vote for candidates for President of the United States since Frederick votes by itself, from 1832 to the present time, was,— 1832: Jackson, 113; Clay, 22. 1836: Van Buren, 109; Harrison, 34. 1840: Van Buren, 156; Harrison, 69. 1844: Polk, 207; Clay, 73. 1848: Cass, 216; Taylor, 69. 1852: Peirce, 216; Scott, 47. 1856: Buchanan 274; Fremont and Fillmore combined, 34. 1860: Breckinridge, Douglas, and Bell, (Fusion), 258; Lincoln, 65. 1864: McClellan, 289; Lincoln, 55. 1868: Seymour, 290; Grant, 96. 1872: Greeley, 219; Grant, 95. 1876: Tilden, 310; Hayes, 118. 1880: Hancock, 321; Garfield, 151. 1884: Cleveland, 307; Blaine, 100.

Churches and Burying-Grounds.—The early settlers were, with few exceptions, Germans, who were in most cases driven hither by the scourging wars, and religious persecutions then raging in Europe. Being pious men and women, they soon formed themselves into religious societies.

John Philip Böhm, a schoolmaster, as early as 1720, "maintained the ministry of the Word, to the best of his ability and to the great satisfaction of the people," among the Reformed inhabitants of Falkner Swamp. From his efforts grew the Falkner Swamp Reformed congregation, which still exists in New Hanover township. In 1729, Böhm was ordained to the ministry, and he continued until 1748 to exercise spiritual care over this congregation. In 1728, George Philip Dodderer, residing in the territory afterwards erected into Frederick township, was a member of the consistory of the Falkner Swamp Church. In 1742, Frederick Reimer and John Jacob Kraus, of Frederick township, were elders. In 1747 an event important in the history of this church, occurred at the house of John Miller, who resided near the mouth of Society Run. On the 17th of March of that year Rev. Michael Schlatter, superintendent of the Reformed Churches in Pennsylvania and adjoining colonies, came, by invitation, from Philadelphia, and administered the sacrament of baptism to the wife and eight children of Dr. Miller, in the presence of several hundred persons assembled to witness the solemn service. Dr. Miller was at this time an elder in the church, and continued to hold office until his death, in 1755. In 1748, Rev. John Philip Leydich came from Europe, and began to labor here, and continued to do so until 1765. The Reformed people residing in the eastern portion of the township connected themselves with the Old Goshenhoppen congregation, in Salford township, near Perkiomen Creek, which was formed as early

as 1732. Christian Hollobush and Peter Hollobush were among the earliest who did so.

The Lutheran people of Frederick township worshipped at the New Hanover Lutheran Church, located in the heart of Falkner Swamp. This congregation was organized about the year 1720. It is stated the Rev. Justus Falkner, a Lutheran minister, preached here in 1703; but this occurred probably at Morlatton (Douglasville), where the Swedes organized a Lutheran Church in 1700, and not at New Hanover, where the earliest settlers, according to the records, arrived later. About 1734 John Casper Støver was pastor. In 1742 Rev. Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg came, and he continued in charge of the congregation until 1762. Daniel Christman and Michael Herger were of the Lutheran faith.

The means of religious instruction in the primitive times, although they differed from those of the present day, were by no means wanting. In the year 1740, Whitefield, the revival preacher, came to the house of Henry Antes, in Frederick township, and preached to the people, the number assembled on this occasion being two thousand. Seward's journal describes this event as follows:

"April 24, 1740. . . . Came to Christopher Wigner's Plantation, in Skippack, where many Dutch People are settled, and where the famous Mr. Spangenberg resided lately. It was surprising to see such a Multitude of People gathered together in such a wilderness Country, Thirty Miles distant from Philadelphia. . . . Our dear friend, Peter Bohler, preached in Dutch to those who could not understand our Brother (Whitefield) in English. Came to Henry Anti's Plantation, in Frederick Township, Ten Miles farther in the Country, where was also a Multitude equally surprising with that we had in the Morning. . . . There was much melting under both Sermons. . . . At Night I was drawn to sing and pray with our Brethren in the Fields. Brother Whitefield was very weak in Body, but the Lord Jehovah was his Strength, . . . for I never heard him speak more clear and powerful. They were Germans where we dined and supp'd, and they pray'd and sang in Dutch, as we did in English, before and after Eating.

A religious movement of importance, in which a number of the inhabitants of Frederick township were interested, took rise in 1742 in Pennsylvania. Count Zinzendorf came to America in 1741 upon a religious mission. Henry Antes, of Frederick, soon made his acquaintance. They conferred with reference to uniting "such souls out of the different religious denominations who sought their salvation through Jesus Christ, through the bonds of love,"—a subject in which they both felt a deep interest. On the 15th of December, 1741, a call was issued, over the signature of Henry Antes, for a meeting of Christians at Germantown on New Year's day. Another meeting was held at the house of George Heebner, in Frederick township, on the 14th and 15th of January, at which John George Stieffel, William Frey, Andrew Frey, Henry Antes and Adam Schaus, all of Frederick township, were in attendance. On the 7th of December, 1742, Count Zinzendorf preached at Falkner Swamp (doubtless at the house of Henry Antes), from Psalms cxxx, 3: "If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?" The unity movement meeting with opposition from many of the

Lutherans, Reformed, Mennonites, Dunkers and Schwenkfelders, now became a Moravian interest. The second week in March, 1745, the Moravian Synod met at the house of Henry Antes, in Frederick township. A Moravian congregation was formed in Frederick township which, in 1747, numbered twenty-three persons. Of those who were permanently settled in Frederick township, the following were connected with this Moravian congregation: William Frey and family, Andrew Frey and Henry Antes and family. Of those who were temporarily in Frederick township, coming with the several Moravian immigrant colonies who passed through here, or working for Antes for a time, or engaged at the Moravian school, were Abraham Andreas, who learned wheelwrighting with Antes; Gottlieb Demuth, who resided here in 1739; Mary Catharine Gemehle, daughter of David Gemehle; John Henry Knauss, weaver and farmer, from Görlitz; Sebastian Knauss, brother of the preceding, born in Tittelsheim, near Frankfort-on-the-Main, and learned the trade of wheelwright with Henry Antes; John H. Möller, miller at Antes' mill, and Rosina, his wife; John Michael Mücke, cooper, a native of Upper Silesia; Daniel Esterlein, born in Ulm; Christopher Paus, shoemaker, a native of Hungary; David Reichard, born in Silesia; John Adam Schneider, farmer, from Schaumburg-Lippe; Frederick Pfeiffer, born in Frederick township; Frederick Weber, weaver, born in Nassau-Siegen; Adam Kremser and Rosina, his wife; Adolph Meyer and Justina, his wife; Frederick Boeckel, farmer, born in Dürreheim, Rhenish Bavaria; J. George Hautsch, Jr., from Altendorf, Saxony; John Turner and Elizabeth, his wife; Anthony, a negro, bequeathed to Bishop Spangenberg by Thomas Noble, of New York; John George Stieffel, born in Reinheim, Hesse-Darmstadt, who immigrated in 1720, and Adam Schaus. At present there is no Moravian congregation in Frederick township.

The Mennonites have a house of worship on Mine road, west of Schwenksville. The congregation was founded about the year 1815. Rev. Moses H. Gottschall has been pastor for thirty-nine years. In the adjoining place of burial are stones bearing the family names: Allebaugh, Gottschall, Grubb, Longanecker, Moyer, Pannepacker, Tyson, Upright, Urweiler, Was-ser.

Keeler's church, on the Great road, near the centre of the township, was built jointly by the Lutheran and the Reformed congregations. Lewis Schittler, Jacob Hauck, George Moore and Philip Krause, representing the two congregations, under date of June 20, 1833, purchased three acres and eight perches of land from the following parties: First, of Ludwig Schittler, one acre and eight perches; second, of Joseph Keeler and Mary, his wife, one acre; third, of Jesse K. Reifsnnyder, Richard K. Reifsnnyder, Reinhard March and Esther, his wife, Abraham Mattis and Sarah, his wife, Lydia Reifsnnyder and Mary Matilda

Reifsnnyder, heirs and devisees of Salome Koons, deceased, one acre. The consideration named in the deed is fifty cents in each case. The building, which is of brick, was erected on the spot previously occupied by a school-house. The building committee were Ludwig Schittler and Philip Krause, of the Lutheran congregation, and George Moore and Jacob Hauck, of the Reformed congregation. The cornerstone was laid on September 28, 1833, and the church was dedicated May 10 and 11, 1834. The Reformed deacons at that time were John Dreisbach, Daniel Hauck, Samuel Leidig and Jonathan Nyce. The Reformed pastors have been Rev. H. S. Bassler, 1834 to 1844; Rev. Samuel Seibert, to 1851; Rev. A. L. Dechant, to the present time. The Lutheran pastors have been Rev. Conrad Miller, 1834 to 1852; Rev. Nathan Yeager, to 1857; Rev. Henry Wendt, to 1864; Rev. Messrs. Struntz, Groh, Francis T. Hoover and Laitzle, each for a short term, from 1864 to 1869; Rev. William B. Fox, to the present time. About the year 1848 an organ was purchased. In 1855 a Sunday-school building of brick was erected on a lot on the hill on the west bank of Society Run, a short distance from the church. Within a few years the interior of the church has been altered and improved, the galleries on the three sides having been removed and the high pulpit on the southwest side taken down, a modern pulpit and chancel placed in the southeast side, and modern pews introduced; a neat steeple was at the same time placed upon the edifice. The cemetery adjoining the church is large, and has been several times enlarged. The following families have made interments here: Albright, Anderson, Apple, Bardman, Berks, Bolton, Bowman, Boyer, Christman, Daub, Dorn, Dyson, Erb, Faust, Fisher, Frankenger, Fryer, Fullmer, Gaugler, Geyer, Godshalk, Greigg, Gresh, Grobb, Grode, Hauch, Hollowbush, Imbody, Johnson, Kalb, Keeler, Keeley, Knerr, Koons, Krause, Leidy, Maberry, Meddinger, Messinger, Miller, Mock, Moor, Moyer, Neidig, Neiffer, Nelson, Pannepacker, Rahn, Reed, Reichard, Reifsnnyder, Roeller, Royer, Samsel, Sassaman, Saylor, Schenkel, Schittler, Schmoll, Schwenk, Seasholtz, Setzler, Shaner, Smith, Steiner, Stetler, Stoneback, Styer, Sweisfort, Thompson, Tyson, Umstead, Underkoffler, Wagener, Weand, Weiant, Wick, Yost.

In 1846 the brick meeting-house known as Bertolet's was erected on a lot of ground in the western portion of the township. It was dedicated on Whitsuntide, 1847. It adjoins a private burying-ground in use since 1766. A Mennonite congregation, formed about the year 1847, worships in this building. Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, who was bishop of Skippack, preached the first year; Rev. Moses H. Gottschall followed from 1848 to 1872; Rev. N. B. Grubb, except a short interval, from 1872 to 1882; Rev. William S. Gottschall is the present pastor. In the summer of 1848 the first Sabbath-school in this section of the country was opened in this house. The ancient

graveyard adjacent to the meeting-house lot is inclosed with a substantial stone wall, and the grounds are planted with evergreens and carefully kept. Of those who sleep here, the stones give us the family names of Bertolet, Bertolette, Bliem, De Nice, Dotterer, Frey, Gottschalk, Grobb, Hummel, Hunsberger, Nyce, Shoemaker, Smoll, Weidman, Zoller. Many are buried here whose graves are not marked; among these are Esterline, Hahn, Grode and Caesar, a colored resident of former times.

The River Brethren, an offshoot from the Mennonites, have a society which meets at intervals of thirteen weeks at the house of its pastor, Rev. Henry A. Landis, on Swamp Creek, west of Zieglerville. Their name originated in this wise: They called themselves Brethren in Christ, and their membership was composed of persons residing on the banks of the Susquehanna River. In the same neighborhood, not so near the river, were the Dunkers, who also called themselves Brethren. The common people, to distinguish them from the Dunkers, called the Brethren in Christ the River Brethren.

In the early times it was customary among the leading families to bury their dead on the farm, on a spot set aside for this purpose. In the course of time the neighbors brought their dead for burial to these private grounds. A number of these family graveyards are maintained in this township, others are neglected and overgrown with brambles and bushes, and still others have relapsed into their former uses as fields for farming, and traces of them are lost.

The Leidig private burying-ground is the largest of its kind in the township. It contains one-quarter of an acre of ground, square in shape, taken from four adjoining farms; is inclosed with a stone wall. It is located in the southwestern part of the township, east of Swamp Creek. On the 17th of January, 1764, David Shultze made a survey of the lands of Christian Stetler and a draft which shows that was the space set apart for the burial-place was taken from the farms then belonging to Christian Stetler, Rev. John Philip Leydich, Henry Smith and George Michael Kuntz. Another quarter of an acre has been given for like use by the will of the late Christian Stetler; this adjoins the original plot and is not inclosed. The wall was built in 1783, at a cost of £36 4s. 8d. It was covered with tiles until 1797, when a board covering was put on, and the tiles were sold for £2 4s. 5d. The improvements made in 1795, cost £34 15s. 6d. The same year Henry Krauss left a legacy of five pounds for the benefit of the graveyard. The contributors in 1783 were,—

	£.	s.	d.
Ludwig Engelhart	3	0	0
Philip Leydich, Sr.	3	0	0
Heinrich Schmidt	2	0	0
Casper Achenbach	1	10	0
Frederick Kuntz	1	10	0
Michael Kuntz	1	10	0
Christian Stetler	1	10	0
Jacob Stetler	1	10	0

	£	s.	d.
Johannes Stetler	1	10	0
Joseph Bitting	1	2	6
Frederick Weiss	1	5	0
Heinrich Sassaman	1	3	4
Lenhart Leydich		15	0
Johannes Herger		10	0
Michael Krebs		10	0
Jacob Christman		7	6
George Michael		7	6
Catharine Stetler		7	6
Benjamin Schneider		7	6
Andreas Will		7	6
Philip Leydich		7	0
Heinrich Grob		7	0
Daniel Krauss		5	0
David Bruch		4	3
Total	£25	6	7

The family names of those buried here, including both the graves marked by stones and those without stones, are Achenbach, Acker, Bender, Bitting, Boyer, Christman, Emerich, Fuchs, Grob, Herb, Herman, Herriger, Hoffman, Koons, Krausz, Langbein, Leydich, Litecap, Mattis, May, Mebry, Moor, Neunzenhölzter, Pannepacker, Puhl, Reifsnnyder, Reimer, Roth, Sassaman, Scheid, Schlonecker, Schmidt, Schneider, Schwartz, Schwenk, Seylor, Stetler, Sweisfort, Weisz, Wülling, Zieber.

The Antes burial-place, in the western corner of the township is invested with historical interest, owing to the fact that Henry Antes, a man known and respected all over Pennsylvania in the colonial times, once owned this property, and is buried here. It is inclosed with a post and rail fence, and it is overgrown with young trees and wild flowers. Frederick Antes, the father of Henry Antes, was buried here in 1746, and Henry Antes himself in July, 1755. Other members of the family also rest here. The only stones remaining are those of Henry Antes and of a member of the Schoelkop family.

In the middle of a field, in an unenclosed space, a short distance north of Zieglerville, on the farm owned by Willoughby Smith, members of the Boyer family, who settled here early, are buried.

On the farm of Hon. Samuel Faust, in the meadow beside Society Run, is a private burial-place, unenclosed, in which are grave-stones bearing the names Faust, Grob, Hunsberger, Miller, Reimer, Schwenk, Smith, Walt, Yost, Zieber.

In Zieglerville, a few steps from the turnpike, is the burying-place of the Underkoffler family, who were the first settlers here. It is inclosed with a wall. The names of those resting here are Cressman, Dreisbach, Long, Scholl, Slotterer, Underkoffler.

On the farm of Charles Koch, a mile north of Zieglerville, the Bickhard, Hollobush and Millhoff families are buried.

On the farm of David Wood, west of Zieglerville, some burials are made. One is Michael Krause, born August 29, 1750, died June 9, 1807.

Tradition states that the space between Keeler's church and the school-house, through which a public road runs, was formerly occupied with graves.

Schools.—The importance of maintaining schools for the education of the young has always been kept in view in this township. The Lutheran and Reformed Church people organized schools contemporaneously with their congregations. As was the custom in Germany, schools and churches were inseparable. The schools of these two denominations were located in New Hanover township and the youth of Frederick, in the earliest times, of necessity went there to be taught.

The Moravian brethren, in 1745, established a school of some importance. At the meeting of their Synod the second week in March, at his home in Frederick township, Henry Antes offered the use of his plantation, the buildings and the mill, for use as a boarding-school for boys, and on the 3d of June the same year a school was opened with the following organization and twenty-three pupils, whose names, as recorded in the Moravian archives, are:

Superintendents.—Christopher and Christiana Francko of Bethlehem.

Tutor.—John C. Heyne.

Managers of the Farm.—Christopher and Ann M. Demuth.

Managers of the Mill.—John H. and Rosina Möller.

Pupils.—Elias Albrecht, son of Anthony and Catherine Albrecht, born in Philadelphia County; Jonathan Beck, son of H. F. and Barbara Beck, born in Georgia; Stephen Blum, Jacob Blum and Francis Blum, sons of Francis and Catharine Blum, born in Saucon, Bucks Co.; Daniel, a Mohican, of Shecomoco; Christopher Demuth and Christian Demuth, sons of Gotthard and Regina Demuth, born in Germantown; Tobias Demuth, son of Gottlieb and Eve Demuth, born in 1741 in Saucon; Emanuel, a negro, from St. Thomas; Benjamin Garrison, born on Staten Island; Lawrence Hartmann and Thomas Hartmann, sons of Frederick and Margaret Hartmann, born in Frankford, Philadelphia Co.; Frederick Klemm, son of Frederick and Susan C. Klemm, born in Philadelphia; Andrew Klotz and John Nicholas Klotz, sons of Albrecht and Ann M. Klotz, born in Tulpehocken; Abraham Miller and Mary M. Miller, born in Milford township, Bucks Co.; Daniel Neubert, son of Daniel and Regina Neubert, born in Holstein; Conrad Schaus, son of J. Adam and Barbara Schaus, born in January, 1738, in Henry Antes' mill; Daniel Vetter, John Vetter and Peter Vetter, sons of Jacob and Magdalena Vetter, born in Oley. During the year the following also entered the school as pupils: Henry Antes and John Antes, sons of Henry and Christina Antes; Mathias Frey, son of William and Verona Frey, born in Falkner Swamp; Jesse Jones and Levi Jones, sons of John Jones, of New Providence township, Philadelphia Co.; Henry Knauss, from Macungie; Abraham Montanye, son of James and Mary Montanye, of New York; Christian Newman, son of John W. and Elizabeth Newman; Isaac Noble and Thomas Noble, sons of Thomas and Mary Noble, of New York; Peter Schuttelhelm, from Philadelphia.

In 1750 this boarding-school was discontinued.

In 1754 a movement was started by wealthy and pious persons in London, having for its object the opening of schools in the more populous German communities in Pennsylvania, for the purpose of teaching the English language and spreading the Protestant religion. The congregations of Rev. Mr. Muhlberg and Rev. Mr. Leydich favored the project. The Lutheran vestrymen and wardens at New Hanover sent a petition on the 1st of August to the Pennsylvania trustees of the London Society, and offered the use of the new-built large school-house, very conveniently situated in the middle of said township. The "ministers, elders and chief men of the German Calvinist (Reformed) congregation, and of some other Protestant denominations in the township of New

Hanover," also, on the 28th of October, 1754, sent a petition urging the opening of the school. This was signed by the following residents of Frederick township: Conrad Dodderer, John Philip Leidig, V.D.M., John Müller, and Frederick Reimer. The Lutheran, Reformed and other denominations acted in entire accord in this matter. The following persons were suggested as suitable to act as assistant or deputy trustees for the school for New Hanover and Frederick townships: Andrew Kepner, Henry Krebs, Lutheran; Henry Antes, Esq., Mr. John Reifsnnyder, Calvinist; John Potts, Esq., William Mangeredge, Esq., English. It is not certain that this school was actually put in operation; if so, it existed but a short time.

Parochial schools were maintained by the Lutherans and the Reformed at New Hanover continuously during the colonial times. Schools were also established in the communities irrespective of the churches. A number of the citizens of New Hanover and Frederick townships, at a public meeting held on the 28th of February, 1807, determined to build a school-house and dwelling-house for the teacher on the Great road, above the township line, in New Hanover township. Among the subscribers from Frederick township to the cost of the undertaking were George Nyce, Ludwig Schittler, Elizabeth Nyce, Peter Daub, John Reller, John Dotterer, Francis Leidig, Christian Stetler, Michael Kuntz, Elizabeth Bertolet, Jacob Grubb, Michael Albrecht, Michael Dotterer, Jacob Leidig, Henry Daub, Elizabeth Snyder, Philip Heebner, Adam Stetler, Jacob Nyce, Philip Zieber Daniel Schwenk, John Zieber and George Nyce, Jr. In this building was supported for forty years a school for the education of the youth of Frederick and New Hanover townships, under the care of a succession of excellent teachers, among whom were the late Adam Slemmer, Esq., Benjamin Schneider, John H. Steiner, Samuel Hartranft, Jeremiah Grimley and Ephraim A. Schwenk.

In 1808 a school-house was built upon the site now occupied by Keeler's church. It was named the Charitable School of Frederick township. The deed for the ground, containing forty perches, was dated December 10, 1808. Michael Kuntz and Salome, his wife, were the grantors, and Philip Kuntz, Henry Stetler, George Moore and Conrad Geyer, the grantees. The consideration money was five shillings. A log school-house was built and stood here until 1833, when it was rolled some yards to the westward to make room for the church. It has since been replaced by a brick building.

In 1840 the township had four schools and two hundred and sixty-nine pupils.

The first board of directors of public schools in Frederick township was organized on the 18th of June, 1853. Schools were kept open three months in the year; the salary of the teachers, \$18.89 per month. In 1860 there were 9 schools and 482 pupils; expendi-

tures, \$1615.39; teachers' salaries \$22. In 1870, 9 schools and 483 pupils; expenditures, \$2089; salaries, \$33. In 1880, 10 schools and 462 pupils; expenditures, \$1921.40; salaries, \$27.50.

In 1884 the number of schools had increased to eleven, that at Zieglerville being graded.

The school directors at the beginning of 1885 are Jacob G. Grimley (president), George W. Steiner (secretary), Samuel S. Smith (treasurer), H. H. Faust, George F. Moore, Henry H. Johnson.

FREDERICK INSTITUTE.—In 1855 Frederick Institute, a classical and day-school, was established by the friends of education in the community. It was opened in the fall of 1855 in the brick building on the hill west of Society Run, near Keeler's church. Cyrus F. Guldin, A.B., a graduate of Dickinson College, was the first principal. The following academic year Rev. A. S. Vaughn took charge. In 1857 it was chartered by the court of Montgomery County, and a large brick edifice, costing five thousand dollars, and adapted to the wants of a boarding-school, was erected on high ground along the Great road. The institution enjoyed prosperity for a number of years, during which many young men were prepared for college and for useful occupations. Young women were also taught. The following were the conductors from its organization to its close, in 1867: C. F. Guldin, A.M., Rev. A. S. Vaughn, Rev. Charles Radford, Rev. Professor M. A. Richards, Rev. L. C. Sheip, Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, Professor A. P. Supplee and Rev. F. T. Hoover.

Mills and Manufacturing Industries.—The valuable water-power furnished by the two large streams—Perkiomen Creek and Swamp Creek—induced the erection of mills almost at the beginning of the arrival of settlers, and has been a stimulant to enterprise and a source of profit to mill operators ever since.

Before January 28, 1736, Henry Antes and George Heebner had erected a grist mill on Swamp Creek. The site of this mill is still traced by remnants of masonry and evidences of the excavation of the race, visible at the point where the road from Bertolet's meeting-house crosses Swamp Creek. The partnership between Antes and Heebner terminated September 14, 1747. It was a "grist mill with two pair of stones under one roof."

Previous to July 7, 1737, Joseph Groff had erected a grist-mill at the upper end of Frederick township, on Perkiomen Creek. On the 19th of July, 1753, Joseph Groff having died, the executors of his estate sold this "water grist-mill, and Messuage or Tenement and Three Pieces or Tracts of Land, lying contiguous to each other," to John Groff, miller, of Frederick township. A portion of the three tracts, which contained three hundred and twelve and one-half acres in the aggregate, was on the east side of the Perkiomen Creek; the mill was on the west bank.

Previous to 1759, George Nyce established a tannery on the Great Road, at the New Hanover and Frederick township line, which is still carried on, the

property being in the possession of John Jacobs, who is intermarried with a descendant of the original owner.

In 1785 the township had five grist-mills, four saw mills, two tanneries, and two hemp-mills.

In 1800, Andrew Schwartz built an oil-mill, which was propelled by Perkiomen Creek. He carried on the oil business many years. The mill is not now in existence.

Peter Smith owned two powder-mills, one on Perkiomen Creek, the other on Deep Creek. After carrying on the powder business many years, he turned them into oil-mills. They are now in ruins.

Jeremiah Roshong owned an oil-mill propelled by a small stream in the northern part of the township.

Jacob Schwenk had a powder-mill on Perkiomen Creek, near Frederick Station; it is torn down.

Bertolet's mill, which succeeded Henry Antes', but farther down the stream, has been in operation and widely known for at least a hundred years. It is at this time owned by Henry Grubb.

In 1832 the township contained three grist-mills, six saw-mills, six oil-mills, one clover-mill, one powder-mill, one tilt-mill, one fulling-mill and one tannery.

On the map of the township of 1849 the following are marked: On Perkiomen Creek, beginning at the upper end and coming down the stream, Schwartz's oil-mill, Snyder's grist-mill, Johnson's powder-mill, J. Schwenk's oil-mill; on Deep Creek, Smith's powder-mill; on Mine Creek, Steiner's grist-mill, Weber's grist and saw-mill; on Swamp Creek, going up the the stream, Schwenk's oil-mill, Abraham Ziegler's grist, saw and oil-mill, Stoneback's mill, Conrad Keeler's auger and gimlet-factory, Saylor's grist and saw-mill, Bertolet's grist and saw-mill; Schwenk's tannery, on the pike above Schwenksville; on a branch of Swamp Creek, Moore's clover and chop-mill; Nyce's tannery, on Great road, near township line between Frederick and New Hanover; Cope's pottery, Neiffer's pottery and Bolton's pottery, all a mile west of Perkiomenville; Jacob Sassaman's tap-auger shop, two miles west of Perkiomenville; Weiland's blacksmith-shop and Shaner's blacksmith-shop, near Keeler's church.

Green Tree Creamery, located in Frederick village, was incorporated October 16, 1880, with a capital of two thousand two hundred and fifty dollars. The present directors are H. H. Faust (president), Dr. F. M. Knipe (treasurer), I. W. Stetler (secretary), Henry Wagener, C. W. Markley, J. A. Sweisfort, W. R. Moyer, Samuel Richards.

Copper-Mine.—The proprietary government from the first kept in view the possibility that valuable ores might be found in the new province. The Stone Hills, in Frederick, were believed for years to contain copper-ore, and the hope is cherished to this day, more or less openly, that mineral wealth may be found underlying these rocky fastnesses. The deputies of William Penn, by patent dated the 8th of

Fourth Month (June), 1703, granted to Nathaniel Puckle a tract of four hundred and fifty acres of land, fronting on the present northeast line of Limerick township a distance of one hundred and fifty-five perches and extending to the northeast four hundred and sixty seven perches, in the southwestern portion of the limits of the present township of Frederick. This land was described as rough and unimproved. Hannah Penn, widow and executrix of the late proprietary, brought suit, on the 9th of December, 1723, against the estate of Puckle, who had in the mean time died. The sheriff seized this property to satisfy her "certain debt and damages," and sold it on the 24th of February, 1724, to Andrew Hamilton, Esq., of the city of Philadelphia. It was at this time supposed to contain a valuable copper-mine, and it was intended that the tract, "with all its Mines, Minerals and Ore, should be held in sixteen parts or shares by the said Andrew Hamilton and other partners." The purchaser made deeds to Christopher Clymer, Samuel Preston, James Logan, Elizabeth Paris and perhaps others for their shares, "as tenants in common and not in joint tenancy," on condition that they should join in the expense of digging, searching for and getting of copper-ore, if any could be found upon or within the tract. Andrew Hamilton owning one or more shares, by his will, dated August 2, 1741, devised his interest to his eldest son, James Hamilton, Esq. On the 13th of March, 1770, the sheriff of the county, "to vest the legal title in the premises in the said James Hamilton, devisee," by deed poll conveyed to him the entire tract of four hundred and fifty acres. By an act of General Assembly passed the 21st of March, 1772, entitled "An Act for Vesting a Certain Tract of Four Hundred and Fifty Acres of Land situate in Frederick Township, in the County of Philadelphia, commonly called the Perkioming Copper-Mine Tract in Trustees to be sold, and for other purposes," all the estate, right, title, interest, claim and demand whatsoever of the said James Hamilton and other partners of and in the said Land and Mine Company was vested in John Gibson, Jacob Lewis, Jacob Shoemaker and Henry Drinker in trust to sell the premises at public auction. The trustees sold the tract in parts to several persons, subject to "a reservation of one-tenth part of all ore which shall at any time or times hereafter be dug, raised or extracted from the premises, and that clear of all expenses, to be delivered at the pit's mouth" to the owners of the shares. On the 9th of June, 1773, they conveyed one hundred and seventy-nine acres and sixty-five perches to George Wickard and George Michael; on the 13th of April, 1773, Valentine Sheely purchased one hundred and eight acres and fifteen perches, for which he obtained a deed on the 12th of November, 1773; and the same year a tract was sold to Matthias Geist. The tract of one hundred and seventy-nine acres, on the 14th of October, 1784, passed into the ownership of Abraham Schwenk. Actual efforts to find ore

evidently were made, for the mouth of the old mine is pointed out to the present day.

"The company," says an authority of more than fifty years ago, "opened a tunnel or drift from the Perkiomen Creek, extending six hundred and sixty feet to a shaft sunk eighty feet deep from the top of the hill, and it is said that they took out a large quantity of rich copper, but being unfortunate in the loss of one or two cargoes which they sent to England, they were obliged to abandon the mine after several years' hard labor and expending several thousand dollars. Previous, however, to leaving it they filled up the shaft again and shut up the mine, that the treasures of the earth might be hidden from the world."

In 1830 new attempts were made to find the veins of copper. A second excavation was discovered about ninety feet southwest of the tunnel. A silver-plated spur, which was lost in the tunnel by a gentleman from South Carolina, who was in company with the late Judge Benjamin Markley, in the mine, about the year 1800, was found by the workmen at this time.

On Scull's map of 1759 the Caledonia Copper-Mine is marked on the north side of Swamp Creek, in the vicinity of its junction with Perkiomen Creek, and the Perkiomen Mine is indicated on the south side of the Stone Hills; thus it appears that at that date two localities in the township were regarded as containing the metal.

Roads.—The first roads, from one new settlement to another, were simply paths through the forest. No notice was taken by the owner of the unenclosed land of the use made by the few neighbors of his premises as a roadway. After a time, as the number of settlers increased, it became necessary to place restrictions upon the privilege of passing and repassing over private property. Petitions were accordingly addressed to the Court of Quarter Sessions, at Philadelphia, praying that roads be laid out for public use. The petition for the principal road of the township, running from the southeast to the northwest, formerly called the Skippack road, and now known as the Great road, was as follows:

"To the Worshipful the Justices at the County Court of Quarter Sessions held at Philad^a the — day of March, 1724-5.

"The Petitions of the Westernmost Inhabitants of the s^d County.

"Humbly sheweth.

"That a road from Farmer's Mill to & thro Bebb's Township having been lately laid out, Your Petitioners humbly pray that the same for the Convenience of a multitude of Inhabitants, may be Extended to the Northern End of Sprogells Tract, where George Warner's Mill stands on Swamp Creek, Issuing from Oley and falling into Parkyemeny, Which said road so to be Extended cannot (it's with Submission to be presumed) be injurious or detrimental to any, but on the Contrary Extraordinary beneficial and Commodious to all the adjacent Inhabitants. In hopes and Expectation of the obtaining of which reasonable request, your humble petitioners shall gratefully & as in duty bound, Ever pray, &c.

*" John Senseman.
John Kenberry.
Anton Henckel.
George Wanner.
Valentine Geygor.
Michael Krebs.*

*William Frey.
Christian Stetler.
Hironimus Doderer.
Michael Hörricher.
Gottlieb Hörricher.
Joseb Graff.*

*George filib Dolderer
Michell Doderer.
Samuel Mayer.
Heinrich Grob.
Hans Jerg Schietz.*

*Yerg Biderhard.
Balthas Fauth.
Johnickel Adam Engellhart.
Hanns Jorg Sprugel.
Martin Funk."*

A petition was made to the court held on the first Monday of September, 1763, for a road from George Weickert's tavern, in Frederick township, to John Barga's mill, "on Perkjomen Creek (late Henry Von der Shlise, his mill)," and thence to Goshenhoppen Church. The signers were:

*" George Weickert.
Henrich Beyer.
Johannes Niss.
Jost Holbusch.
Wendel Horst.
Johann Peter Holbusch.
Phillip F. K. Creppler (his mark).
Christian Hepler.
John Umstad.*

*Killian Gaugler.
Daniel Hister.
Valentine Nungesser.
Michael M K Kraus (his mark)
Henrich Krauss.
John Miller.
George Michel.
Michael Renn.
Georg Schwenk."*

The petition was granted and a road was laid out, but not to the satisfaction of Jacob Underhoffer, who petitioned for a review and change of course of the road, on the ground that "the road as now laid out and returned to this court passes through your pets. improved land and meadows, to his very great Injury and damage." The return of the reviewers being defective, re-reviewers were appointed, and on the 26th of May, 1764, a final return was made. The road began "at Wickart's tavern, on a Great Road, commonly called Skippack road,"—without doubt the road laid out in compliance with the petition of March, 1725.

At the term of court held September 1, 1766, was presented the return of jurors or viewers who had laid out a road from the Bucks County line to Turkey Point, in Chester County, which passed through the entire width of Frederick township from east to west, through lands of Stephen Moyer, Peter Houk, John Hevener, Henry Grubb, Conrad Grubb, Henry Statler, Jacob Statler, Christian Statler, Frederick Antes, Henry Antes, William Antes and Falkner Swamp Reformed Church lands. This is the road from Perkiomenville, *via* Green Tree Tavern, to Fagleysville. This highway was of great importance at that date and for a long time afterwards. Over it passed the heavy teams which carried iron from the forges on the Perkiomen to Warwick Furnace and other iron-works in the vicinity of Pottstown.

Bridges.—The Perkiomen and the streams flowing through the township are spanned by bridges at the crossings of the principal roads. At Perkiomenville a stone bridge of three arches was built across the Perkiomen in 1839, by the county, at a cost of upwards of eleven thousand dollars. An iron bridge over the same stream was built at Hendricks' Station, about the year 1874, and a stone bridge at Frederick Station about twenty-five years ago. A stone bridge over Swamp Creek, at Grobb's mill, was, in 1854, erected by the county commissioners, Michael Hartzell, Archibald Banes and John Cowden.

The handsome stone bridge over Society Run, above Zieglerville, was built by the county commissioners in 1853. A stone bridge over the same stream at the point where it is crossed by the road from Perkiomenville to Keeler's church was built about forty years ago.

Taverns.—As early as 1760, George Wickert kept a tavern in the lower part of the township. A hundred years ago a tavern was kept by a man named Hevener on the road from Perkiomenville to Keeler's church near where Old Goshenhoppen Run crosses. In 1797, Benjamin Schneider was recommended to the court for license. The Green Tree Tavern was owned by Schneider; it has been the place for holding elections from time immemorial; and has been kept by many persons, the most widely-known of whom was Joseph Keeler, who conducted it more than forty years ago. George Weidman was recommended for license in 1772, and from 1777 to 1782; Valentine Boyer, in 1779; Jacob Kugler, in 1783 and 1785.

Post-Offices.—Frederick township has within its borders six post-offices, and enjoys daily mail communication with all points.

Frederick post-office, the first, was established in 1837, with Joseph Keeler as postmaster, whose compensation for that year was \$4.61. In 1839, Jonathan Nyce became postmaster, holding the position until 1855, when Abraham Freyer succeeded him. In 1863, C. S. Stetler was appointed postmaster, and he retains the office at this date. For the year ending June 30, 1883, the compensation of the postmaster, was \$77.76.

Perkiomenville post-office was established August 25, 1854, with Isaac Rahn as postmaster. William Ziegler is the present incumbent. For 1883 the compensation was \$110.53.

Zieglerville post-office was established October 11, 1858, with Joseph Ganser as postmaster. V. G. Prizer now holds the office; compensation in 1883, \$114.88.

Klein's post-office, at Frederick Station, on the Perkiomen Railroad, is in charge of Jacob W. Klein as postmaster; compensation in 1883, \$78.74.

Obelisk post-office, on the Great road, in the central portion of the township, was established about 1881. A. Moyer is postmaster; compensation in 1883, \$23.21.

Delphi post-office, at Zieglerville Station, on the Perkiomen Railroad, was established in 1884. Its postmaster is Daniel W. Stetler.

Revolutionary War.—The record of the part taken in the Revolutionary struggle by Frederick township is imperfectly preserved. We know that after the defeat of our armies at the battles of Brandywine and Germantown, and during the time that Washington had his headquarters at Valley Forge, this region was largely drawn upon for needed supplies, and its people were called upon to contribute assistance and render important services. The

larger farmers, if not regularly connected with the army, were impressed, with their teams, into the service when occasion demanded, to transport ammunition, stores and wounded; of the last named, so the story goes, a Frederick farmer hauled a load all the way from the field at Brandywine to the hospital at Bethlehem. During the winter of 1777-78, Washington spent several days under the friendly roof of Colonel Frederick Antes, in Frederick township, and every morning the Father of his Country walked over to neighbor Samuel Bertolet's house to drink the water of a noted mineral spring.

The names of a portion of the persons enrolled in Captain Michael Dotterer's company,—unfortunately the list is incomplete,—attached to the Sixth Battalion of Philadelphia County militia, in 1777 and 1778, are given below, some of the members of this company performed duty entitling them to pay. Colonel William Antes, Esq., a sub-lieutenant for the county of Philadelphia, paid Captain Michael Dotterer £321 10s., amount of his pay-roll, February 28, 1778, No. 3:

Peter Acker, Francis Bart, Jacob Belts, Samuel Bertolet, Conrad Bickhart, Henry Boyer, Jacob Boyer, Philip Boyer, Valentine Boyer, William Boyer, Jacob Christman, Jacob Detweiler, Conrad Dieffenbacher, John Dotterer, John Geist, Mathias Geist, John Hiltelidel, Henry Hollobush, Jost Hollobush, Daniel Krause, Henry Krause, Michael Krause, Michael Kuntz, Francis Leidig, Leonard Leidig, John Ley, George Michael, Zacharias Nyce, John Reimer, Ludwig Reimer, Henry Sassaman, Gottfried Saylor, Peter Saylor, George Schwenk, Jacob Schwenk, George Smith, Charles Solner, Christian Stetler, Henry Stetler, Jacob Stetler, Jacob Underkoffler, Henry Werner, Jeremiah Wiser, Jacob Zieber, John Zieber.

The War of 1812.—In the month of July, 1814, Governor Snyder called out the Pennsylvania militia to oppose the advance of the British upon Philadelphia. Captain George SENDERFER, of the Montgomery Greens, and Captain Jacob Freyer, of the Montgomery Blues, both of Falkner Swamp, with all possible haste marched their men to Flourtown. Here they were incorporated into Colonel Humphrey's regiment of riflemen, of which Philip Boyer was major, after which they pushed on to Philadelphia, and thence to Camp Dupont, on the Delaware. On the 24th of December, 1814, they were mustered, inspected and dismissed. There was much suffering from cold experienced by the soldiers, who had left their homes in warm weather and had not been supplied with winter clothing. Among those from Frederick township were the following in Captain Freyer's company:

Jacob Bartman, Samuel Detwiler, Conrad Dotterer, John Dotterer, Samuel Esterline (bugler), John Gougler, George Hauck, Jacob Hunsberger, Lewis Jones, Leonard Schuler, Henry Yost, John Yost, Peter Yost.

War of the Rebellion.—During the late civil war, 1861-65, the following Frederick township men volunteered their services to the United States government.

Henry S. Acker, John C. Anderson, Daniel Bardman, Jacob Batzel, Abraham Bergey, John Berry, Jones Boyer, Peter S. Boyer, Jacob W. Dechant, Henry Edelman, Aaron Faust, John E. Faust, Mahlon Faust, Isaac Freese, Leopold Gastingier, Jacob S. Gross, John W. Hauck, Nathan

B. Hauck, Abraham Herman, Mahlon Herpel, Henry G. Hunter, John Huzzard, Jacob Johnson, Edward Kepp, Adam N. Keyser, Jesse N. Keyser, Milton Krause, Samuel Leidig, Albert S. Leidig, George Mack, Jacob W. Markley, George Meng, Adam Moyer, Augustus G. Neiffer, John G. Neiffer, John Neiman, Samuel E. Nyce, John Poh, Daniel Pool, John Pool, John Reiter, Dr. R. B. Rhoades (surgeon), Oliver Roshong, Henry Sussaman, Jacob Sussaman, Samuel Schlotterer, David Scholl, J. J. Scholl, Franklin Schuler, John K. Schwenk, John Sloop, Jacob Smith, William Stuckey, Henry Styer, Harrison Weand, Jacob Weise, Adam Wensel, Leopold Wetzel, Aaron Wick, Christian Wick, Jesse Wil-lauer.

HENRY ANTES.—One of the pioneer settlers of Pennsylvania, who wielded an influence—and wielded it for good—in the affairs of the colony during the thirty years between 1725 and 1755, the story of whose life is little known, was Henry Antes.

He was the son of Frederick and Anna Catherine Antes, and was born in Europe in 1701. The earliest record found concerning the Anteses in this country is a deed, dated the 20th of February, 1723, for one hundred and fifty-four acres of land in Philadelphia County, purchased by Frederick Anttos, of Germantown, from Henerick Van Bebber, described as part of the "tract of twenty-two thousand three hundred and seventy-seven acres in Mahanitania," in the present township of New Hanover. Frederick Antes died in the latter part of the year 1746, leaving a wife and two children—the son, Henry, and a daughter named Ann Elizabeth, who was the wife of John Eschbach. It is believed that Henry Antes was born in Freinsheim, a town of two thousand inhabitants, in Rhenish Bavaria. On the 2d of February, 1726, after three regular notices given, Henry Antes and Christiana Elizabetha, daughter of William Dewees, were married at Whitemarsh by John Philip Boehm, pastor of the German Reformed Church in Pennsylvania. The precise date at which Antes took up his residence in Frederick is not known. On the 2d of February, 1730, he is described as a resident of Hanover township, the name at that time sometimes applied to the territory afterwards erected into Frederick, as well as to the Frankfort Land Company's tract. Previous to this he, with his father-in-law, had built a grist-mill and paper-mill at Crefeld, Germantown. In 1730 he was naturalized. On the 2d day of September, 1735, Henry Antes, of Frederick township, millwright, bought of John Hagerman, of Lancaster County, weaver, one hundred and seventy-five acres of land "near the branches of the Perkeaw-ming," in Frederick township, paying therefor two hundred pounds, lawful money of the province; bounded by lands of William Frey and Henry Stadler, land late of Andrew Frey and vacant lands. Upon this tract Mr. Antes resided during the remainder of his life, except when temporarily called away. Upon this property, the same year, he built, in partnership with George Heebner, a grist-mill. This grist-mill, located on Swamp Creek, was the first in this neighborhood. Prior to its erection the primitive settlers were obliged to send their grain to the Wissahickon to be ground. A tradition, handed down from

one of the first settlers here, avers that it was customary to send the Indians of the locality to Wissahickon, distant twenty-five miles, to mill. They would start on the journey in the evening and return the next day, bringing the flour in exchange for the grain. For this service a small quantity of tobacco or some other slight compensation was given. By virtue of a warrant dated March 25, 1741, a tract of ninety-six and three-quarters acres of land in that portion of Limerick township, now included in New Hanover, was surveyed to Henry Antes.

These transactions show the activity of Mr. Antes during the early years of his manhood. He was a man of tall stature and strong physique. "He was remarkable," says one of his descendants, "for being in appearance and dress an enormous Dutch farmer, and in language and manners a courtier of the *ancien régime*." He was a pioneer in the true sense of the word. He explored the wilderness, and acquainted himself with the streams and the character of the country. He knew the paths and Indian trails of interior Pennsylvania. The Indians themselves were his neighbors, and he learned their habits and peculiarities. He was adept in woodcraft, understood the varieties of soil, knew the value of water-courses and how to utilize them, instructed the newcomers from Europe how to "clear" their lands, and pointed out to them the springs beside which to build their rude habitations, on a site sheltered by a knoll from the bitter blasts of winter. His services were called into requisition in the selection of lands, the negotiation of purchases, the drawing of wills and the settling of estates. His prudence and integrity in the performance of duties requiring acquaintance with legal formalities and knowledge of financial matters were recognized throughout the length and breadth of the then limited bounds of the inhabited parts of the province.

In matters of religion he displayed the same activity and earnestness that marked his business habits. He was a man of decided convictions and sincere piety, and he was an earnest supporter of the movements of his time for the advancement of the Christian religion. He had received careful training in youth in Europe. Mr. Böhm, in 1742 wrote: "Under the clear light of the Gospel was he born, holy baptism did he receive, through which he entered the covenant which He has made for the faithful; this covenant, I doubt not, was explained according to the word of God (for I knew his zealous and faithful instructor well) at his first participation in the Holy Communion." In the spring of 1736 he became acquainted with Spangenberg, founder of the Moravian Church in America, who was sojourning among the Schwenkfelders in Skippack. The friendship between him and the mild and godly Spangenberg endured to the end of their lives. Antes, John Bechtel, Adam Gruber, Stieffel and others were in the habit of going, once in four weeks, on a visit to Spangenberg,

who made his home with Christopher Wiegner, and there they "enjoyed many blessed hours together." "Although but a layman," says another writer concerning Antes, "he undertook to instruct his fellow-countrymen in the province in the way of life, calling them together in their houses for singing, for prayer, for reading the Scriptures and for exhortation. Thus we find him employed in the populous district of Oley as early as 1736." His home was made a centre for religious efforts. On the 24th of April, 1740, Whitefield preached here in England. Rev. Dr. Dubbs places Antes before us in this connection thus:

"He stood by the side of Whitefield,
And prayed in the German tongue
When the clarion voice of the preacher
O'er the hills of Frederick rung.
They knew not each other's language,
Nor did they need it then;
For the one cried, Hallelujah!
And the other said, Amen!"

On the following day, April 25th, Bohler and Seyfert, of the Moravians, with Henry Antes as guide, started from Antes' house to view a tract of five thousand acres of land in the Forks of the Delaware, which Whitefield had purchased some time before, and which the Moravians afterwards bought and settled upon. On Saturday, April 26th, the three explorers found themselves at an extensive Indian village, upon the spot where Nazareth now stands, and spent the night there in the woods. From this time forward Antes was closely identified with the Moravians in their spiritual and temporal affairs. Up to 1740 he continued a member of the Falkner Swamp Reformed Church, in the charge of Rev. Mr. Bœhm. At this time a difference arose between pastor and parishioner which resulted in alienation. In 1741, Antes became acquainted with Count Zinzendorf, whose labors are referred to in another portion of this article. In 1742, Antes assisted the Moravians in building the first large house, called the "Gemein-Haus," in Bethlehem. It was built of logs. "Not only," says one of the brethren, "did he aid them with his own hands upon this house, but also with money and advice." He also assisted in building the grist-mills in and about Bethlehem, the grist-mill at Friedensthal and the grist and saw-mill at Gnadenhütten. The colony of Moravian immigrants who came in the "Catherine" arrived at the house of Henry Antes, in Frederick, towards evening on the 19th of July, 1742, and lodged there that night. This company numbered fifty-six souls. In November, 1744, Henry Antes presided at a Synod of the Moravian brethren, held in what is now North Heidelberg township. On the 21st of March, 1745, he attended a large church council at Muddy Creek. The second week in March, 1745, the Moravian Synod was in session at his house in Frederick. At this meeting the arrangements were made for establishing a boarding-school for boys (described elsewhere) on the plantation of Antes. He now moved to Bethle-

hem with his family, excepting two sons, who remained at the school. December 15, 1745, he was appointed a justice of the peace for Bucks County, and under date of June 30, 1749, he was reappointed to the same office in the same county. He was sent, in 1746, as a deputy from Bethlehem, at the demand of the government, to be publicly examined in regard to an accusation made against the Brethren to the effect that they had three thousand stand of arms for the use of the Indians who should join the French in making inroads into Pennsylvania. The examination resulted in proving the entire innocence of the accused. On the 18th of February, 1748, the proprietaries granted to Henry Antes, Esq., for the use of the Brethren, license to construct a ferry, for a period of seven years, over the West Branch of the river Delaware, on the high road leading from Philadelphia to the Minisinks, and from thence to the northwest part of the province New York. On the 27th of October, 1748, he was appointed business manager of the Moravian brethren at Bethlehem, taking the legal care of the community's property and outward temporal affairs.

In April, 1750, the Moravians at Bethlehem introduced the wearing of the white surplice by the minister at the celebration of the Eucharist. Antes disapproved of this, and in consequence withdrew from their communion. "This unhappy circumstance," say Henry Harbaugh, "grieved the Brethren, because they esteemed him highly for his practical Christianity and many offices of love in their behalf. And he himself was not slow to lament the estrangement, while both parties adhered to their respective views."

Prompted by this occurrence, Mr. Antes, in 1750 upon the removal of the school from his property, returned to Frederick township. He permitted those of his children that preferred to do so to remain with the Brethren, while the others of his family returned to the Reformed Church. Whether Mr. Antes himself renewed his connection with the church of his youth is uncertain.

On the 25th of May, 1752, Henry Antes was appointed a justice of the peace in Philadelphia County, of which Frederick township was then a part.

Towards the close of the year 1752 the Moravians desired Antes to accompany Spangenberg and others to make a journey to North Carolina to select and have surveyed a large tract which they had bought for the purpose of settling a colony there. A messenger was sent to Antes to extend an invitation to him to accompany the party. This incident, as described by John Antes, shows the resolute character of his father:

"When the messenger arrived at my father's, and learned that he was sick, and that doubts were entertained of his recovery, he did not think it proper to extend this invitation to him and accordingly returned. My father, however, who had been apprised of the arrival of a stranger, inquired particularly about him, and as soon as he learned his business he dispatched my eldest brother after him with a request to come back. No sooner had he learned of the invitation than he resolved, without hesitation to comply with it, and from that moment his health im-

proved so rapidly that he was soon enabled to carry into effect his resolution."

In the wilds of North Carolina Antes suffered a great deal from a wound in the hand, which he received in cutting tent-poles. The hardships and dangers encountered by the party in the undertaking are described in the "Life of Spangenberg." In the spring of 1753 Antes was enabled to return home, but from that time he was often attacked with disease.

In 1754, when the movement by the London Society to introduce English schools among the Germans was set on foot, the philanthropic heart of Antes was at once enlisted in its favor. Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, in a letter addressed to Rev. William Smith, giving an account of the meeting held at New Hanover respecting the proposed schools, says,—

"I delivered . . . all your other papers into the hands of Henry Antes, Esq., who, being a man of great reputation and influence was attentively heard while he explained the same to the people. After conferring a little together they (the Reformed) all melted at once into tears of joy, uttered many thankful expressions, and agreed in Christian harmony in the choice of our Lutheran school-house, and offered also their own school-house, which is only about sixty poles distant."

In 1754 the German settlers of Pennsylvania were accused of disloyalty to the King of Great Britain and of sympathy with the French. On the 20th of November, 1754, the principal German Protestants of the province addressed a letter to the Hon. Robert Hunter Morris, Esq., Lieutenant-Governor, affirming their fidelity to the British sovereign. The signers from Frederick township were Henry Antes, George Hübner and Philip Leydich. Antes, who knew the Germans of Pennsylvania better than any other living man, felt keenly the injustice of the accusation and the cowardice of the attack upon the honor of this faithful people, who, by reason of their alien language and social disadvantages, were almost defenseless. To vindicate more thoroughly his countrymen, he wrote a letter to Richard Peters, secretary of the province, making suggestions, viz.:

"To Mr. Richard Peters, Secretary.

"Sir—We have considered further concerning our address to his Hon. Robert Hunter Morris. That as there is a great number of Germans all over ye province of Pensylvania, which might perhaps not have heard nor indentet any thing, neither of the late acensation against the said Nation in general, and may be less of our late address to his Honor ye Governor concerning ye same, and for ye more satisfaction to them all which is ignorant in it, we thought it proper to put it in public print, both in English and Dutch; if his Honor ye Governor has not already put the copy to the presse, and therefore hope his Honor will not take it amiss: because it only to that Intent that our Protestant Country people might see all our reason and motive to our actions; Especially in ye Dutch Copy we Intent to make a short introduction to shew them both our concern as also to remind them of their Loyal duty to the Crown of Great Britain, as likewise his Honor's answer to ye s'd address, of which I send you by this ye Copy to correct; pray do not take it amiss as; you have been present you are most able to add where I have omitted, and alter where I might not have used the very same expressions his Honor made to the said Address. I should have nothing against it if his Honor ye Governour should see his own aus' as much as I could remember thereof, before it is put to print and correct himself what he pleases thereof, and so send it back to Mr. Kepely, in Philadelphia, who is desired to forward ye same to print. And with this I remain with many salutations,

"Sir, your Humble Servant,

"HENRY ANTES.

"Frederick Township, December ye 24th, 1754."

We come now to the close of this great-hearted man's busy life. The hardships endured in the overland journey to North Carolina and the explorations there, as also an injury received whilst superintending the building of the mill at Friedenthal, near Nazareth, contributed to his decline. He was in an enfeebled state of health until Sunday, the 20th day of July, 1755, when death happily relieved him of his sufferings. The death of a man so generally known and so highly esteemed throughout Pennsylvania produced a deep impressson. The news of his death was conveyed the same day to Bethlehem, and after dinner Bishop Spangenberg and wife, Rev. Abraham Reinecke, Rev. John Bechtel, Rev. Matthew Schropp and eight others set out for Frederick township, with three children of the deceased, who were attending school there. On the following day, at the funeral services, Bishop Spangenberg delivered an address, Rev. Mr. Reinecke read the Moravian burial service, and ten pall-bearers from Bethlehem carried the remains of "the pious layman of Frederick township" to their resting-place in the family graveyard on the farm, close by those of his father. Over six hundred persons attended the solemn services. His grave is marked by a stone of blue marble, bearing these words:

"Hier ruhet
HEINRICH ANTES:
Ein Kleinod dieses Landes
Ein redlich kühner
Handhaber der Gerechtigkeit
und treuer Diener
Vor Welt- und Gottes Leut.
—
Entschlief
In Friedrichs-Town den 20 Julii,
1755
Seines Alters 54 Jahre.

In his will, written by his own hand on the 20th of July, 1754, precisely one year before his death, is this provision:

"I give fifty Pounds, Pennsylvania money, unto Abraham Bemper Timothy Horsefield, or their Succeeding Committees for the Furthurance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to ye use of the Indian Brethren at Gmudenhütten or Elsewhere under the Care of the Unitas fratrum, now in Bethlehem, in Pennsylvania."

Spangenberg speaks of Antes as "a man well acquainted with all the circumstances of the country, being widely and favorably known, and enjoying the confidence and love of many souls." Bøhm, in the heat of controversy, said: "He knows full well how our hearts were formerly bound together in a cordial love for the divine truth of our Reformed teachings." John Antes, his son, after his return from Africa, wrote of his father: "He was beloved and esteemed in the whole neighborhood on account of his uprightness and impartiality, by which, both as a citizen and a justice of the peace, he was characterized." Christopher Saur, the editor of the widely-read Germantown newspaper, in the issue of the 16th of May, 1756, said of Antes: "He died in a state of impartiality (*Unpartheylichkeit*) towards all men and parties. Were such magistrates more numerous, the poor would not have

reason to complain and weep over grievous injustice, which they have to suffer because persons are favored." Rev. J. H. Dubbs, D.D., writes:

"He loved the Church of his fathers,
And over the stormy sea
He had borne as a precious treasure
Their faith to the land of the free;
But the flock was without a shepherd,
And many had gone asleep,
So he lifted his voice like a trumpet
To gather the scattered sheep."

He was a man peculiarly useful in his day and generation. He was a skillful mechanic, a capable builder and an intelligent projector of enterprises and improvements such as were adapted to the wants of the times in which he lived. The trusts confided to his care were faithfully executed. As a magistrate he commanded universal respect. He was earnest and diligent in the things that engaged his attention; unassuming, yet boldly outspoken when occasion demanded; straightforward and sincere in every act. His opponents never questioned his integrity and purity of motive. His character comes down to us without a stain. He was a just man and "walked with God" all his days.

At the time of his death Mr. Antes owned the farm and mill property of one hundred and seventy-five acres upon which he lived, a tract of about ninety-six acres of woodland in Limerick (now in New Hanover) township, a plantation of one hundred and fifty-six acres in New Hanover township inherited from his father, a tract in North Carolina and a large personal estate.

The children of Henry Antes and Christiana, his wife, were Anna Catharina, born November 20, 1726; Anna Margaretta, born October 6, 1728; Philip Frederick, born July 5, 1730; William, born November 21, 1731; Elizabeth, born February 10, 1734; John Henry, born October 5, 1736; Jacob, born September 19, 1738, and died June 6, 1739; John, born March 13, 1740; Mary Magdalene, born October 28, 1742; Joseph, born January 8, 1745, and died August 16, 1746, at Bethlehem; Benigna, born September 16, 1748, and died, in Bethlehem, December 24, 1760. His widow, Christiana Antes, in 1757, was united in marriage to Bernhard Dodderer, of New Hanover township, who died the year following. She died on the 5th of October, 1782, in Northumberland County, at the age of about eighty.

Anna Catharina Antes was married four times. Her first husband was Joh. Martin Kalberlahn, to whom she was united July 29, 1758; second, Gottlieb Reuter; third, Rev. John Caspar Heinzman; fourth, Rev. John Jacob Ernst. In 1809 she resided in Bethabara, N. C.

Anna Margaretta Antes was partly educated at Bethlehem. On January 9, 1743, she was one of the company of Moravians who sailed in the ship "Jacob" from New York for England, having been sent to complete her education at a school of the

United Brethren in London. Here she met and married, in 1766, Rev. Benjamin La Trobe. Their children were Christian Ignatius, author of a "Journal of a Visit to South Africa in 1815 and 1816," a work of four hundred pages, published in London in 1818; Benjamin Henry, who came, in 1795, to the United States, achieved a brilliant career as an architect and civil engineer, and was the father of Hon. John H. B. Latrobe and Benjamin H. B. Latrobe, eminent citizens of Baltimore; John Frederick, who took the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Jena, and established himself at Dorpat, in Livonia, Russia; and a daughter who married — Foster.

William Antes married Christiana, daughter of Jacob and Barbara Markley, of Skippack and Perkiomen township. Their children were John; Christiana, married Jacob Markley and lived in Northumberland County; Elizabeth, born February 17, 1757, and married, April 4, 1775, John Shuler; Sarah, born October 12, 1762, and married Samuel Gardner; Mary, born August 17, 1768; William, born March 15, 1776, and died at Canandaigua, December 21, 1841. William Antes was a sub-lieutenant of Philadelphia County during the Revolutionary war. After the war he settled in Northumberland County, and held offices of responsibility there.

Elizabeth Antes was married (first) to George Philip Dotterer, of Frederick township. Their children were Benigna, born February 17, 1753, married John Yost; Anna, born December 21, 1756, married John Bernhardt, and died August 21, 1837; Elizabeth, born May 7, 1759, married Henry Dukehart, and died September 24, 1840, at Baltimore; Henry, born July 25, 1762, married Anna Davis, of Limerick township, and died April 28, 1836, in Camden County, N. J.; Mary, born December 24, 1764, married George Freyer, and died August 25, 1856; Frederick, born September 13, 1769, and died in Limerick township December 23, 1829. George Philip Dotterer carried on the business of inn-keeper in Limerick township. He died August 23, 1771. His widow was married, on the 23d of April, 1772, to Rev. Nicholas Pomp, a minister of the German Reformed Church. They had one child, — Thomas, born February 5, 1773, a prominent divine of the same denomination as his father. Elizabeth Pomp (maiden-name Antes) died May 20, 1812, at Easton, Pa.

John Henry Antes was married, May 11, 1756, to Anna Maria Pawling. Their children were John Henry, born April 17, 1757; Maria, born July, 1758; Philip, born August 26, 1759; Elizabeth, born December 7, 1761; Frederick, born July 19, 1764; Anna Maria, wife of John Henry Antes, died in March, 1767. He married, December 8, 1767, Sophia Snyder. Their children were John, born January 7, 1769; Mary Catharine, born September 30, 1772; Anna Maria, born March 6, 1775; William, born January 18, 1777; Jacob, born December 3, 1778; a daughter born August 21, 1781; Joseph, born March 16, 1785;

Sophia, born March 20, 1790. John Henry Antes lived in Frederick until about the beginning of 1775, when he removed to Northumberland County. He was an Indian scout, captain of militia, Indian fighter, sheriff and mill-builder. He died at Antes' Fort on the 13th of July, 1820.

Maria Magdalena Antes, ninth child of Henry Antes, married — Ebbing. She died at Herrnhut, Germany, April 17, 1811.

The Antes name we find, in the successive generations, ever in the van of enterprise. They are a race of builders; mechanism is their birthright. As we look upon the long line of honorable names we find many of them to excel as engineers, architects, inventors and manufacturers; and when they turn from these pursuits to bear arms, to engage in the legal profession, or to assume the sacred office, they still hold a foremost position. When we contemplate the great number of the descendants of "the pious layman of Frederick township," scattered broadcast over the globe, the mind turns instinctively to the promise made to the patriarch of old: "I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee."

ANDREW FREY in his day enacted a part in the early history of Pennsylvania which will preserve his name to the end. His conscientious nature and his devout piety—qualities which deserve and receive the esteem of all good men—were the occasion to him of great crosses and severe self-examination. With him, to do what was right was everything. His ingenuous heart could neither compromise nor temporize with wrong, if to his understanding it was wrong. And so his life, which might have been a smooth and uneventful one had he been more world-wise and less sincere, was marked by fierce controversies, long journeys and broken friendships "for conscience' sake."

Andrew Frey was originally of the Dunker faith. He was never married, and he was not related to William Frey, who owned the property adjoining his in Frederick township.

August 5, 1718, he bought from David Powell two hundred acres of land located in Frederick township. On May 1, 1728, he sold this to the following persons: Ludwig Engelhart, one hundred acres; Henry Stadler, fifty acres; George Grouse, seventy-two acres; Christopher Sheagle, twenty-eight acres.

In 1742, when the movement for church unity was inaugurated by Henry Antes, with the powerful support of Count Zinzendorf, Andrew Frey entered it with all the enthusiasm of his nature. In the second conference, held at the house of George Hübner, in Frederick township, on the 14th and 15th of January, 1742, he was a participant. He was also at the third conference, held at Oley on the 10th, 11th and 12th of February the same year, and was chosen (by lot) one of three presidents and directors of conferences. After this he was chosen, in the same way, to be elder over the unmarried brethren. This required his re-

moval to Bethlehem. He had some variance with the brethren in this position. He was next selected to go to Germany, which, being a man well advanced in years, he felt disinclined to do; but his objections were overruled, and on the 9th of January, 1743, he sailed in the ship "Jacob" from New York for England, in a company composed of Count Zinzendorf himself, a daughter of Henry Antes, a daughter of William Frey and others of the society, which had now come to be regarded as a Moravian or Herrnhuter organization. In five weeks the ship reached London, a fortnight after the party came to Amsterdam, and three weeks afterwards to Herrndeik. They next went to Marienborn, whence, after a stay of four weeks, they proceeded into Saxony to Hirschberg, where they held conferences during nine days; and then to Herrnhut. The manner of life there did not commend itself to Andrew Frey's approval. What he saw and heard seemed to him irreligious and sinful. He says: "The other brethren and sisters which were come from Pennsylvania having once a love-feast, the count (Zinzendorf) told every one of them his thoughts of them, and when he came to me he said, 'Brother Andrew has, indeed, an open countenance; but, mark me, there is something amiss in his mind which hinders him having any settled quiet.'" At the end of three years he desired to return to Pennsylvania; twelve months later he came back.

Of course he withdrew from the Moravian Society. This act caused widespread comment in Pennsylvania and elsewhere. Much warm discussion ensued between the society and Andrew Frey and their respective friends. This resulted in the publication written by him in 1748, entitled, "Andreas Freyen (Pred. in Falkners Schwamm) seine Deklaration oder Erklärung, auf welche Weise und wie er unter die sogenannte Herrenhutergeremeinde gekommen ist." This was issued from the press of Christopher Sauer, of Germantown, in a volume of eighty-eight pages 12mo. This book was translated into English and issued, in 1753, at London.

As late as April 20, 1750, Andrew Frey published a lengthy communication in Sauer's Germantown paper contradicting a report, which had spread through the rural sections of Pennsylvania, that he had reunited with the Moravians and had recalled his book; and he took occasion in this article to reiterate the accusations as contained in the book. As giving us an insight into the manners of those times, the first paragraph of this communication is given herewith:

"William Frey recently had business in Great Swamp, at several houses, with trustworthy people, who asked him seriously to tell them truly whether Andrew Frey had again united with the Moravians, and whether he had recalled his little book, the Declaration; for they had, in a roundabout way, heard this to be the fact; indeed, by the Moravians themselves it had been said, Andrew Frey was their dear brother; they bore him great love. A teacher of the Mennonites told him, 'he had read my little book, and that, proved by their life and conduct, what I wrote was true; and if I recalled all this, he would regard me as a fickle, unworthy man;' thus one does not know whom one may believe."

It is not desirable that the positions taken by the opposing parties in this controversy should be repeated here. The disputants have long since gone to their reward, and the subjects at issue are forgotten.

Of the after-life of Andrew Frey nothing further is known. It is presumed that he was a preacher among the Dunkers, or German Baptists, the remainder of his days. He was far advanced in years and already weak in body when the events above narrated occurred and he probably died soon after.

REV. JOHN PHILIP LEYDICH came to America in 1748. He was accompanied by his wife, Maria Catharina (maiden-name Hammichhaus), his two children, Franz Leydich and Elizabeth Leydich, and by two sisters of his wife, one of whom afterwards married Caspar Achenbach, and the other Andreas Sassaman.

Having been settled as pastor of the Falkner Swamp and affiliated Reformed congregations, Pastor Leydich at once looked about him for a suitable property for a home. On the 16th of October, 1749, he bought of Conrad Frick, of Germantown, a tract of one hundred and five acres in Frederick township. This was the tract bought, on May 1, 1728, by Ludwig Engelhart, of Andrew Frey, and sold by him, on November 2, 1748, to Conrad Frick. It was a suitable spot for the young minister's home, in the midst of his largest congregation, upon the banks of Swamp Creek.

Mr. Leydich labored as pastor of this congregation until 1765, when he was succeeded by Rev. Nicholas Pomp; but he lived here until the close of his life. A number of his descendants are residents of the township at this time.

Rev. John Philip Leydich and Maria Catharine, his wife, had born to them the following children: Franz, born in Holland, March 26, 1745; Elizabeth, born in Holland, October 10, 1746, married Alexander Dieffenderffer; Leonhard, married Catharine Nyce, daughter of Zacharias Nyce; Philip, married Rosina Bucher, daughter of George Diedrich Bucher; Maria Magdalena, married John Nyce; Catharine, born April, 1753, married Philip Miller, died August, 1823; Sophia, married Gabriel Schuler.

Rev. Mr. Leydich and his wife are buried at Leidig's graveyard, in Frederick township. The stone erected to mark his resting-place bears these words:

"JOHANN PHILIP LEYDICH.
Reformierter Brediger
war geboren, 1715,
den 28 April,
ist gestorben 14 January,
1784,
ist alt 69 jahr
den 2 Tim. am 2 ten Cap. vers 3.
Leide dich als ein guter
Streiter Jesu Christi."

COLONEL PHILIP FREDERICK ANTES, son of Henry and Christiana Antes, was born in Frederick township on the 5th of July, 1730. He was united in marriage, May 1, 1755, to Barbara Tyson. Their children were

Christina Elizabetha, born January 22, 1757, and died October 13, 1763; Anna Maria, born February 14, 1760, married Christopher Dering, and died November 22, 1822, in Northumberland County, Pa.; a son, born October 25, 1762; John Henry, born February 13, 1766. Barbara, wife of Frederick Antes, died February 6, 1775. He married, on the 17th of August, 1775, Catharine Schuler, and they had one child, Catharine, born July 3, 1777, who became, on July 12, 1796, the second wife of Simon Snyder, afterwards Governor of Pennsylvania.

November 19, 1764, Frederick Antes was appointed a justice of the peace for Philadelphia County, and May 23, 1770, and April 27, 1772, he was reappointed to the office.

Upon the approach of the Revolutionary struggle Frederick Antes, and his brothers William and John Henry, promptly took a firm and positive stand on the side of the colonies. Frederick Antes boldly proclaimed his devotion to the effort for the independence of his native country, and actively entered upon the performance of responsible and hazardous duties in connection with the inauguration and prosecution of the war. This required no small degree of courage and sacrifice on his behalf. He was a man of considerable property, and, moreover, he held the commission of an officer of the crown,—justice of the peace. These considerations, however, did not daunt him in his burning zeal for the cause of American liberty. The British commander, at an early stage of the war, laid a reward on his head, but though sometimes dangerously near to the emissaries of the King, Antes eluded them to the end. His conspicuous and outspoken position must have exercised a great influence upon the community in which he lived and held office, and history shows that that section of country was notably faithful to the cause of freedom during the long years of strife which ensued.

Frederick Antes brought to this task rare qualifications,—ability and intelligence; the mechanical skill inherent in all of his name; high standing in the community and inflexible strength of character; unflinching courage and enthusiastic, heroic patriotism. All these qualities at once had full play, but not alone in the limited field afforded by the neighborhood of his home. He was called into the counsels of the State and the country at large. Much that he did—and that the most daring and effective—is doubtless unrecorded and buried in oblivion. As may be surmised, many delicate and dangerous services were rendered by him that required the utmost caution, sound judgment and profound secrecy. Of these we may never know. But of those of his public acts, notice of which is scattered through the pages of the records of our commonwealth, a brief summary is presented. On the 3d of February, 1776, upon application of Mr. Antes, an order was granted to Mr. Towers to deliver to him six pounds of powder, to repay that quantity borrowed by him to prove a can-

non made by himself and Mr. Potts at the Warwick Furnace. Under date of 14th of August, 1776, there was paid Frederick Antes, Esq., twenty-five pounds for an experiment made on an eighteen-pounder cannon, by agreement of the late Committee of Safety. He was appointed a member of the provincial conference of committees of the province of Pennsylvania, held at Carpenters' Hall, Philadelphia, June 18-25, 1776. He attended the sessions. On Sunday, June 23, 1776, he was appointed a judge of election in Philadelphia County, to be held on Monday, July 8, 1776, to elect representatives to the convention to form a new government for the province. He was returned by the judges of election as one of the members elected to the convention of the State of Pennsylvania, on July 15, 1776, the opening day of said convention. On Monday, August 15, 1776, he was appointed by the convention one of the committee to bring in an ordinance for regulating the militia of the State, so as to render the burdens and expenses of the associators and non associators as nearly equal as possible. On Tuesday, September 3, 1776, in the forenoon, by ordinance of the convention of the State, he was appointed a justice of the peace for the county of Philadelphia. October 28, 1776, accounts were passed for blankets, attested by Frederick Antes, lieutenant-colonel of Colonel Potts' battalion, Philadelphia County militia, to be charged to the Flying Camp, -£21 7s. 6d.

Frederick Antes was a member of the General Assembly of the commonwealth for the county of Philadelphia. This body met on Thursday, November 28, 1776. He was chairman of the committee on grievances. December 5, 1776, he was appointed chairman of a committee to bring in a draft of a militia law. On Tuesday, December 10, 1776, the House was requested to appoint a committee out of their body to join General Mifflin in a tour through the several counties in the State, in order to stir up the freemen thereof to the immediate defense of the city and country. On the next day Frederick Antes and Colonel Curry were appointed to accompany General Mifflin through the county of Philadelphia for the purpose stated. January 18, 1777, an order was made on Mr. Nesbitt to pay Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Antes, Third Battalion Philadelphia County militia, forty-three pounds ten shillings for drum-major's and fife-major's wages. On Monday, March 3, 1777, in General Assembly, Colonel Antes voted nay on the proposition "That the members of Assembly be exempted from military duty as militia." On Tuesday, March 4, 1777, he voted in favor of inserting the following words in the militia bill: "And no militia officer shall be required to take and subscribe an oath or affirmation at this time to qualify him to receive a commission to act in the character to which he shall be elected." On Thursday, May 29, 1777, in the afternoon, was read in the Assembly a petition from the officers and privates of Captain Reed's company of Colonel Antes' battalion of Phil-

adelphia County militia setting forth their opinions of the resolves of Congress of the 14th of April and of the 9th of May. At Philadelphia, on the 11th of September, 1777, it was ordered that Colonel Hiester, Colonel Corsey, Colonel Antes and Colonel Dewees' respective battalions rendezvous at Swedes' Ford. On January 13, 1778, Colonel Budd attended, and hinted to the Council that about five hundred arms for the service were sent to Colonel Antes; that arms generally suffer in removing for want of boxes. At Lancaster, April 1, 1778, an order was authorized in favor of Frederick Antes for fifteen hundred pounds to buy horses, at request of Congress committee.



RESIDENCE OF COLONEL FREDERICK ANTES.

(Used by Washington as Headquarters.)

A reward of two hundred pounds, set by Lord Howe, for Colonel Antes, dead or alive, induced a party of royalists to attempt his capture on one occasion, while he was visiting his home in Frederick township. It is related that he barely escaped by making good his retreat from the back-door as his pursuers entered at the front.

On the 20th of March, 1777, Frederick Antes was one of the persons designated to sign the issue of two hundred thousand pounds of paper money, dated April 10, 1777. The authority to sign the notes issued by the colonies was esteemed a high honor, and was sought by the best citizens.

One of the biographers of Colonel Antes says, "He was an iron-founder, and cast the first four-pounder pieces made on this side of the Atlantic for the Revolutionary army."

During the year 1779, Colonel Frederick Antes removed to Northumberland County. Although impoverished by the war, he took at once a leading position in civil and military life in his new home. He was justice, county commissioner, a Judge of the

Court of Common Pleas, a member of the State Assembly and county treasurer.

In 1801, while acting as commissioner in exploration of the Susquehanna, Colonel Antes took cold at Columbia. He repaired to Lancaster, where he died September 20, 1801, and was buried in the churchyard of the German Reformed congregation.

JOHN ANTES, TRAVELER, MISSIONARY AND AUTHOR.—On the 13th of March, 1740, O. S., was born to Henry and Christiana Antes, of Frederick township, a son, whom they named John. At the age of six he became a pupil at the Moravian school established on his father's plantation. At twelve he went to live with the Moravian Brethren at Bethlehem. At seventeen he became a communicant member of their society. On the 6th of May, 1764, he set out from Bethlehem for Europe, and on the 5th of July he arrived at Marienborn, where a synodical convention was then in session. He proceeded to Herrnhut, where he arrived on the 5th of September. A year later he went to Neuwied to learn the jewelry business under a celebrated master of the art; and having a great aptitude for mechanical pursuits, made satisfactory progress. On the 16th of January, 1769, he received a call to Grand Cairo, Egypt, to the Moravian mission established there. After receiving ordination as a deacon, at Marienborn, on the 23d of May, he proceeded on the journey, going first to London. He took passage here on the 3d of October, for the Isle of Cyprus, and reached Larnica on the 24th of November. On the 1st of January, 1770, he left Larnica for Limasol, sixty miles distant, making the journey on a mule, with a Greek guide, and encountered a series of misfortunes on the way. On the 8th of January he reached Alexandria. On the 10th of February he reached Boulac, the harbor of Grand Cairo, where he was received by the Moravian missionaries in the most friendly manner. His duties here were to make himself "useful to the brethren in whatever might be deemed necessary for the furtherance of their holy enterprise, and to contribute towards their support through the means of his mechanical labor." In the beginning of 1773 the disorders which prevailed in Cairo were so great that Europeans dared not venture into the streets without running risk of insult. Antes was doomed to the outrage of flagellation in the streets. On the 23d of August he visited Behneshe, where a friendship had previously been established with the Copts. Six weeks later he returned to Cairo. On the 15th of November, 1779, he fell into the hands of one of the Beys, and suffered the tortures of the bastinado. In August, 1781, he was recalled from Egypt, and on the 20th of May following he reached Herrnhut, and during the summer he attended the Synod at Berthelsdorf, in Saxony. In 1785 he received a call as warden of the congregation at Fulnee, in England. In June, 1786, he entered into holy matrimony with Susanna Crabtree. In 1801 he visited Herrnhut. A diminution of strength induced him, in 1808, to ask for a dismissal

from his post, which was granted, and he selected Bristol for his future abode. He departed this life, after a short illness, without any symptom of pain or death struggle, on the 11th of December, 1811.

In 1800, was issued at London a work by Mr. Antes entitled "Observations on the Manners and Customs of the Egyptians, the Overflowing of the Nile and its Effects; with Remarks on the Plague and other Subjects." It was a quarto, and attracted great attention at the time.

He also wrote his "Autobiography," which was first published in German by the society of which he was a member, and was afterwards translated into English.

Mr. Bruce, the celebrated traveler, in his great work, speaks of the services rendered him by Mr. Antes, at Cairo, in these words: "This very worthy and sagacious young man was often my unwearied and useful partner in many inquiries and trials as to the manner of executing some instruments, in the most compendious form, for experiments proposed to be made in my travels."

It is stated that on the appearance of Lord Valentia's "Travels" in which the veracity of Bruce was questioned, Antes wrote a vindication of the latter's character and statements.

CHAPTER LVI.

GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP.¹

GWYNEDD is one of the central townships of the county, and is bounded on the north by the borough of Lansdale, Hatfield and Montgomery, east by Horsham, south by Whitpain, southeast by Upper Dublin, west by Worcester and northeast by Towamencin. It is six and one-half miles long, three miles wide and contains an area of about twelve thousand one hundred and fifty acres, having been reduced, in 1869, ninety-two acres by the incorporation of North Wales, whose boundaries were further enlarged in October, 1884, taking in the academy, Baptist Church, shirt-factory and upwards of twenty-one houses. It was further reduced in 1872, one hundred and forty-five acres by the erection of the borough of Lansdale. The surface is rolling and the soil generally clay, with some loam. The Wissahickon Creek rises but little over a mile from the line, in Montgomery township, its general course being southerly, and it propels three grist-mills and a saw-mill within the township. The Trewern is the next considerable stream, about three miles in length, with several branches. Willow Run flows by the Spring House and empties into the Wissahickon at the Whitpain line, but neither of the aforesaid furnish water-power.

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

The Chestnut Hill and Spring House turnpike was chartered March 5, 1804, and was finished the following year. Its total length is eight miles, of which one and a half are in Gwynedd. In 1813, and the following year this turnpike was extended from the Spring House into Bucks County, and is commonly called the Bethlehem road. The Sumneytown and Spring House turnpike was incorporated March 17, 1845, and finished in 1848, and has a course through the township of nearly five and one-half miles, or about one-third its total length. The pike from Blue Bell, through Penllyn to the Spring House was constructed in 1872, and is three and one-half miles long. A turnpike was made in 1884 from the Sumneytown pike, near Kneedler Station, to the Morris road, passing through the village of West Point, a mile and a quarter in length. The stone bridge where the Sumneytown pike crosses the Wissahickon was built in 1819; where the State road crosses it in 1833, and the Plymouth road bridge in 1839. The most important improvement, and the one that has done the most for the prosperity of this section, is the North Pennsylvania Railroad, which was opened for travel to Gwynedd Station June 19, 1856. Nearly a mile above this is the Gwynedd tunnel, five hundred feet in length, and, including the cut, three thousand six hundred feet, its greatest depth being sixty feet. It was made through the hardest rock, involving considerable labor and expense, and it retarded for a while the progress of the road, which was opened through to the Lehigh River January 1, 1857. It has a course through the township of about six miles, with stations at Penllyn and Gwynedd. The Stony Creek Railroad has a course of three and one-half miles in the township, and forms a junction with the North Pennsylvania Railroad at Lansdale. This road was finished in 1874, and its stations in the township are called Acorn, Lukens or West Point, and Kneedler.

According to the census of 1800, Gwynedd contained 906 inhabitants; in 1840, 1589; and in 1880, 2041. The real estate in 1882 was valued at \$1,617,212, and including the personal property, \$1,728,547, the aggregate per taxable being \$3000, an average very nearly equal to that of Lower Merion. Three hotels and three general stores, were licensed for 1883. In May, 1876, it contained seven stores, three dealers in flour and feed, three coal-yards and one lumber-yard. The census of 1850 returned 262 dwelling-houses, 278 families and 193 farms. In 1785 it contained within its limits five taverns, three grist-mills, two saw-mills and one tannery. There are post-offices at the villages of Gwynedd, Spring House, Penllyn, West Point and Gwynedd Station. At the latter place it is called Hoyt, and not long established. The public schools in 1876 numbered five; for the school year ending June 1, 1883, six, open nine months, containing three hundred and thirty-four pupils. Gwynedd, in 1838, formed the Tenth Election District in the county, voting for many years at the village of the aforesaid

name. By order of the Court of Quarter Sessions, March 25, 1876, the township was divided into two districts, the elections for the lower district being held at the Spring House. The Friends and the Episcopalians have each a house of worship, and the Baptists and the Colored Methodists occasional services, the latter in a small building below the Spring House.

The Church of the Messiah, located at Gwynedd, was organized in 1870 as a mission under the care of the Board of Domestic Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and of the diocese of Pennsylvania.

Services were first held in the school-house. Soon after the organization, the present lot was purchased of Jacob Acuff, and the corner-stone of the present church edifice was laid by Bishop William B. Stevens. A bell was placed in the chapel in 1876 by Mrs. John Gilbert, of Philadelphia. The mission was placed under the charge of the Rev. Samuel Edwards. The pulpit was later supplied for a time by students from the Theological School, in Philadelphia.

The rectors who have since served the church have been the Revs. Henry C. Pastorius, John J. Fury, Henry K. Boyer and the present rector, the Rev. R. T. B. Winskill. The church has thirty-five communicants, and a large summer attendance from visitors in the neighborhood.

West Point is now the largest village in Gwynedd; it contains a store, hotel, mill, lumber and brick-yards, several machine-shops and about thirty houses. Here are also the West Point Engine-Works and Machine-Shops, erected within the last seven years. The post-office has been only recently established. On the completion of the Stony Creek Railroad, in 1874, this place became known as Lukens Station. Its present name was given it about 1876, when it contained seven or eight houses. During the summer and fall of 1884 a turnpike was constructed through the village, connecting it with the Sumneytown road and making now a continuous pike from here to the borough of North Wales.

Gwynedd, situated at the intersection of the Sumneytown turnpike and State road, contains a store, hotel, two places of worship, school-house and about ten houses. Here the early Welsh immigrants made the first settlement in the township, known as North Wales, and is so mentioned on Lewis Evans' map of 1749. Gordon, in his "Gazetteer" of 1832, also calls it by said name, and states "where there is a Quaker Meeting-house, a tavern, three dwellings and a post-office." The latter we know was established here before 1830. The place has been long and popularly known throughout that section as "Acuff's Tavern," where the elections were held for some time previous to the division of the township, in 1876. A public-house must have been established before 1769. A store was kept here by Owen Evans before 1765. The Episcopal Church of the Messiah was built in 1872,

at present without a pastor. The venerable Friends' Meeting-house will form the subject of an article.

Penllyn is a station on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, sixteen miles from the city, and is situated on the turnpike leading from the Blue Bell to the Spring House; it contains a store, fourteen dwellings and several mechanic shops. It is in the midst of an improving country. The post-office was located here in July, 1861. The name signifies in Welsh the head of a dam or the beginning of a stream of water. The first grist-mill in the township, it is supposed, was built near this by William Foulke, and was probably the same owned by Jesse Foulke in 1776. The Spring House is an old settlement, the intersection of the roads here dating back to 1735. It contains a store, hotel, several mechanic shops and about twelve houses. The post-office was established here in March, 1829, John W. Murray being appointed postmaster. Gwynedd Station contains a store, seven houses and Hoyt post-office. Kneedler is a station on the Stony Creek Railroad, with an inn and a house or two. Near this is a small Baptist Church belonging to the society in North Wales, but no stated services are held.

Gwynedd is a corruption of the Welsh word "Gwineth," signifying North Wales, and also the name of a river there. It is also called in early records here "Gwinedith." According to Holme's map of original surveys, the upper half of the township, adjoining Hatfield, Montgomery and Horsham, was purchased by John Gee & Co., and the other half by James Peters and Robert Turner, the latter being a well-known merchant in Philadelphia. Owing to the good reports received from the settlers of the Welsh tract on the west side of the Schuylkill, more and more the attention of those they had left behind was excited. The return of Hugh Roberts from Merion to his native section, in 1697, tended largely to promote further emigration. Among these may be mentioned William, John and Thomas ap Evan, who, near the close of that year, had arrived in Philadelphia with a view of taking up some large tract upon which, those who were to follow, might thus the better be enabled to dwell together. After some inquiry and a brief examination, they purchased, March 10, 1698, from Robert Turner, who had now become the sole owner, a tract containing seven thousand eight hundred and twenty acres, which was further confirmed to them by Edward Shippen, Thomas Story, Griffith Owen and James Logan, Penn's commissioners of property, March 8, 1702. The tract was stated at the latter date to be "situate in the township of Gwinned, in the county of Philadelphia." This is most probably the earliest mention yet found of the name. There is every reason to believe that at the date of this purchase not a single European had yet dwelt on the tract, the earliest settlements having not yet quite extended this far northwards from the city.

Some of the immigrants from Wales left Liverpool in the ship "Robert and Elizabeth," Ralph Williams,

master, having on board Edward Foulke and family, Hugh Roberts, Robert Owen and Cadwallader Evan, brothers of Thomas ap Evan the purchaser, Hugh Griffith, John Hugh, John Humphrey and probably Robert John. The name of Edward David has also been mentioned by some writers. They arrived in Philadelphia July 17, 1698, fifteen weeks after leaving their homes in Wales. They were kindly treated by their kindred and former acquaintances in the city and Merion, leaving their women and children among them until some accommodations would be prepared for their reception on the new purchase. Edward Foulke, in his narrative, states that it was "at the beginning of November" that he settled in his new home in the wilderness, and that "divers others of our company, who came over sea with us, settled near us at the same time." Supplies of food, it is very likely, were procured from their nearest neighbors, in Whitemarsh, whom they would have to pass in their several journeys to and from the city, where, however, many of the most necessary articles were alone procurable.

To the recently-published work of Howard M. Jenkins¹ we are indebted for an account and estimate of the number of early settlers in Gwynedd previous to the close of 1698: Edward Foulke and family, 11 persons; Thomas Evan, 10; Robert Evan, 10; Robert Evan, 9; Cadwallader Evan, 4; Owen Evan, 8; William John, 8; John Humphreys, 6; John Hughs, 5, and Hugh Griffith, 5, making a total of 66 inhabitants, the last two being partly conjectural. Respecting the families of Evan Roberts and Ellis David nothing positive is ascertained. It is most probable that there were also a few others, besides some servants, who generally, more or less, accompanied the immigrants to assist in making their first improvements. In a petition for a road from here to Philadelphia, in June, 1704, they state that they number "in said township above thirty families already settled." The taxables in 1741 had reached ninety-three, showing a considerable degree of prosperity within forty-three years of its first settlement.

Although the Gwynedd tract had been conveyed to William, John and Thomas Evan as containing 7820 acres through Thomas Fairman's measurement, made 2d of Twelfth Month, 1694, a re-survey was ordered by Penn's commissioners of property, September 29, 1701, which, on being completed, in December, 1702, was found to comprise 11,449 acres. The commissioners issued patents to the holders of the several tracts in the township based on this last survey and confirming the title acquired through Turner. Such proceedings were only too common in those days, and show a wrong somewhere. According to this, Thomas Evan received 1049 acres; William John, 2866; Evan ap Hugh, 1068; Robert John, 720;

¹ "Historical Collections relating to Gwynedd," chiefly confined to the early Welsh Friends and their descendants. We are also under obligations to the researches of Edward Mathews, of the *North Wales Record*.

Robert ap Hugh, 232; Robert Evan, 1034; Cadwallader Evan, 609; Owen Evan, 538; Edward Foulke, 712; Evan ap Hugh (lower tract), 110; John Humphrey, 574; William John (lower tract), 322; Robert Evan (lower tract), 250; Hugh and Evan Griffith, 376; Ellis David, 231; Evan Robert, 110, and John Hugh, 648.

Edward Foulke, mentioned among the early settlers, came from Coeddyfoel, in Merionethshire, North Wales. He embarked at Liverpool with his wife, Eleanor, and children,—Thomas, Hugh, Cadwallader, Evan, Gwen, Grace, Jane, Catharine and Margaret,—and arrived in Philadelphia as aforesaid, where he was kindly received by his former acquaintances who had preceded him. Having purchased a tract of over seven hundred acres in Gwynedd he erected a house thereon near the present Penlyn Station, into which he removed the following autumn. In 1702 he wrote in Welsh an account and genealogy of his family, which was afterwards translated by his grandson, Samuel Foulke, of Richland, a member of the Provincial Assembly from 1761 to 1768. He also wrote an exhortation late in life addressed to his children, which was published in *The Friends' Miscellany* for 1832. He was a man of literary taste, which seems to have been transmitted to several of his descendants. He died in 1741, aged ninety years.

William John, whose surname has been since changed to Jones, and a joint purchaser with Thomas Evan of the Gwynedd tract, still retained, in 1699, two thousand eight hundred and sixty-six acres, and at his death he was much the largest landholder in the township. He had children,—Gwen, Margaret, Gainor, Catharine, Ellen and John. He settled near the present Kneedler Station, and a two-story stone house standing near by, bearing the date of 1712, is supposed to have been erected by him. He died in that year, leaving to his only son, John, who was one of the executors, fourteen hundred acres, including the plantation and dwelling.

John Humphrey's tract of five hundred and seventy-four acres lay just north of the present Spring House. At his place the early Friends occasionally held meetings for worship, of which he subsequently became an elder. A bridge is mentioned at or near his house in 1709, no doubt being one of the earliest in that section. He died the 14th of Ninth Month, 1738, aged seventy years. It appears he accumulated considerable property and was regarded as the banker of the neighborhood, his personal property amounting to above one thousand pounds, his bonds and notes being eighty-two in number. Mr. Jenkins, in his recent work, relates that "a Friend from Richland attended the Monthly Meeting at Gwynedd, and in the afternoon rode to his home, twenty miles distant, under great exercise of mind concerning John Humphrey. He passed a restless night at home and rode back to John Evans' in the morning. Arriving there, he would not eat or drink until he had delivered his

message; so, taking John Evans with him, they went to John Humphrey and told him he had better burn all his bonds and mortgages than preserve them; that it would be much better for himself and his posterity, and this was the word of the Lord to him." He had a son, who was called Humphrey Jones, after the Welsh custom, which mode, however, was not long retained in this section, much to the relief of our recent genealogists.

At the request of Thomas Penn, in 1734 a list of resident freeholders of Gwynedd was returned by the constable, being forty-eight in number, whose names were as follows: Evan Griffith, John Jones (penman) John Griffith, Robert Hugh, John Harris, Theodorus Ellis, John David, Eliza Roberts, Rees Harry, Evan Evans, Owen Evans, Thomas Evans, Jr., Thomas Wyat, Leonard Hartling, Peter Wells, John Jones (Robert's son), John Parker, Hugh Evans, Morris Roberts, William Roberts, Robert Evans, Catharine Williams, Thomas Evans, Cadwallader Evans, Robert Parry, John Jones (weaver), Cadwallader Jones, Hugh Griffith, Hugh Jones (tanner), Robert Evan, Edward Foulke, Robert Roberts, Robert Humphrey, Gainor Jones, John Humphrey, Rowland Hugh, Jenkin Morris, Evan Foulke, Edward Roberts, Rees Nanna, Evan Roberts, Thomas David, Hugh Jones, John Chilcott, John Wood, William Williams, Lewis Williams and Thomas Foulke. Mention is made in the same that "the township of Gwinedeth have hitherto refused to give the constables the account of their lands, for which reason it is not known what they hold." We do not wonder at this, evidently brought about by the resurveys, in which they had some experience, as has been stated. After a settlement now of more than a third of a century, through the aforesaid we are enabled to make an interesting estimate respecting the nationality of its several settlers. Of the forty-eight names given all at said date were Welsh, probably excepting six, Leonard Hartling being the only German.

Cadwallader Evans died 30th of Third Month, 1745, aged eighty-one years. John Evans was born in Denbighshire, Wales, in 1689; arrived in Pennsylvania with his parents, in 1698; was a minister forty-nine years; died in 1756. Evan Evans was born in Merionethshire in 1684, and in 1698 emigrated with his parents to Gwynedd. He died in 1747, having traveled extensively through the several colonies in the ministry. Robert Evans, one of the early settlers, died in 1731, aged upwards of eighty. A malignant disease prevailed throughout this section from July 1st to August 24, 1745, of which sixty-three died within the bounds of the Monthly Meeting, the majority being young persons. This was certainly a great number when we come to consider the population at that time. Robert Humphreys was collector of taxes in 1722, Cadwallader Roberts in 1723, Thomas Evans in 1742, Henry Bergy in 1776, and John Hoot in 1781; Robert Jones was commissioned a justice of the peace

in 1718; Owen Evans, of "North Wales," one of the justices of the County Courts in 1726, and Cadwalader Foulke, in 1738. Jacob Albright was constable in 1767 and Nicholas Selser in 1774; John Jenkins assessor for 1776. Among the surnames mentioned in the list of 1734 who are still land-holders in the township, may be mentioned the Foulke, Jones, Jenkins, Roberts, Evans and Davis families; the rest probably no longer exist here.

As has been mentioned, for the third of a century Gwynedd was almost exclusively settled by the Welsh, as we can infer from the list of 1734, wherein but one German name is found. Leonard Hartling or Harthein, therefore, can be regarded as the pioneer settler of the latter. This element has since become a very important one, probably now constituting three-fourths of its total population. In the assessment of 1776, out of a total of one hundred and fourteen names, the Germans numbered already fifty-five, or almost one-half, while the Welsh had barely made an increase, either in taxables or land-holders, within the preceding thirty-two years. Many of these early Germans, it appears, had removed from the upper townships, particularly Towamencin, Lower Salford and Perkiomen, and consequently located themselves at first chiefly in the upper or northwestern section of the township.

Melchior Kreible came about 1735; Christopher Neuman or Neiman purchased, in 1751, two hundred and twenty-five acres in its western corner from the executors of Edward Williams' estate. Henry Snyder was married to a daughter of Neuman, and was returned in 1776 as holding one hundred and seventy-five acres, and having ten children in his family, whose names were Rosina, George, Christopher, Henry, Christian, Abraham, Isaac, Susanna, John and Regina. George Snyder at the same date possessed a farm of one hundred and fifty acres, and was taxed for a servant. This place was situated on the Upper Dublin line, he having purchased it from Francis Peters, in 1762. He died in 1792, leaving three sons, Adam, Jacob and John.

Abraham Danehower, the ancestor of an extensive land-holding family, came from Germany before 1755, and purchased one hundred and thirty-six acres in 1762, of David and Sarah Cumming. He died in 1789, aged sixty-seven years, and his wife, Catharine, in 1798, aged seventy-four years. His children were George, Abraham, Henry, John, Catharine, Elizabeth and Sarah. George died in 1793, aged forty-five years. Abraham resided on a farm he purchased from Samuel Evans, on the west side of the Bethlehem road, above the Spring House. Catharine married Jacob Snyder; Elizabeth, Philip Hurst; and Sarah, Philip Fetterman.

Isaac Kolb (now Kulp) purchased a farm before 1769 to the east of North Wales. He was rated in 1776 as holding one hundred and forty-three acres, and his son Isaac, Jr., for the same amount. The latter was

born in 1750, married Rachel Johnson in 1778, and died in 1828. He had seven children,—Benjamin, Elizabeth, Catharine, Mary, Jacob, Sophia and John. Benjamin Kulp married Ellen, daughter of Edward and Mary Hoxworth, of Hatfield. She was a sister of General W. S. Hancock's mother. He died May 16, 1862, aged eighty-three years. He had eight children; among these were Isaac, Enos, Simon, Oliver and Ann. The latter was married to Asa Thomas. Tillman Kulp, mentioned in 1776 as a single man, was no doubt a son of Isaac, Sr.

Philip Hoot came from New Hanover in 1768 and purchased a farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres from David Neuman in the western corner of Gwynedd; in 1776 he was assessed for three hundred acres. He died in 1798, aged sixty-eight years, and left his homestead to his son Peter. The latter, in 1792, married Barbara Kriger. John Hoot, who was collector of Gwynedd in 1781, was probably his son. Philip Heist, is rated in 1776 as holder of one hundred and twenty acres of land, fifty-one acres of which were purchased in 1772 of Abraham Lukens, Sr., which was situated just below the present borough of North Wales. He died before 1780, and his executors conveyed half an acre to the trustees for the erection thereon of St. Peter's Church, now the cemetery ground.

Garret Clements, or Clemens, resided in the east corner of the township, on the Welsh road, and was rated for one hundred and thirty-six acres. He was a Mennonite, and on account of his conscientious scruples for not bearing arms was fined by the authorities several times. His wife's name was Keturah, and his daughter Mary married Charles Hubbs. His large two-story stone house is still standing close beside the road, and as it has been for some time abandoned, attracts the attention of passing travelers. John Frey, or Fry, of Towamencin, in 1735, purchased a tract of one hundred acres from Jane Jones, situated about a mile southeast of Lansdale. In 1742 he sold it to Paul Brunner, of Salford, whose widow, about 1757, married George Gossinger, a "redemptioner," who had followed the occupation of a tanner, and it thus passed into his control.

John Troxal, in 1776, was the owner of two tracts, containing one hundred and five acres, and a grist and saw-mill. This property was situated at the intersection of the Swedes' Ford road and the Wissahickon Creek, near the Whitpain line. It was sold in 1777 to Samuel Wheeler, and the mill is now owned by H. Mumbower. Peter Troxal was rated at that time for one hundred and seventy acres. John Everhart, who was rated for one hundred and fifty acres, purchased in 1762 from George Klippenger and sold it to David Lukens in 1793. This property is now owned by Charles Lower, and adjoins the Upper Dublin line. Martin Raker, who was rated in 1776 for fifty-seven acres, resided near the present borough of Lansdale, the place being now owned by Charles S.

Jenkins. He was one of the first four trustees of St. Peter's Church.

Jacob Heisler's farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres was located on the Allentown road, near the present Kneedler Station. It is known that he kept a licensed inn here in 1779, if not some time earlier, and it has been continued as such unto this day. Martin Schwenk's farm of one hundred and sixty acres was located on the present Sumneytown pike, below the borough of North Wales. This was the residence of Thomas Evans, the first settler. George Heist set up a public-house on this place in 1784. Thomas Shoemaker, who was rated for one hundred and ten acres in 1776, was the son of George, and was married to Mary, daughter of Joseph Ambler. This farm lay to the northeast of North Wales, and remained many years in the family. Adam Fleck, who was rated for one hundred and forty acres, was one of the building committee, with George Gosinger and Peter Young, of Gwynedd, in the erection of St. John's Church, Whitpain, in 1773.

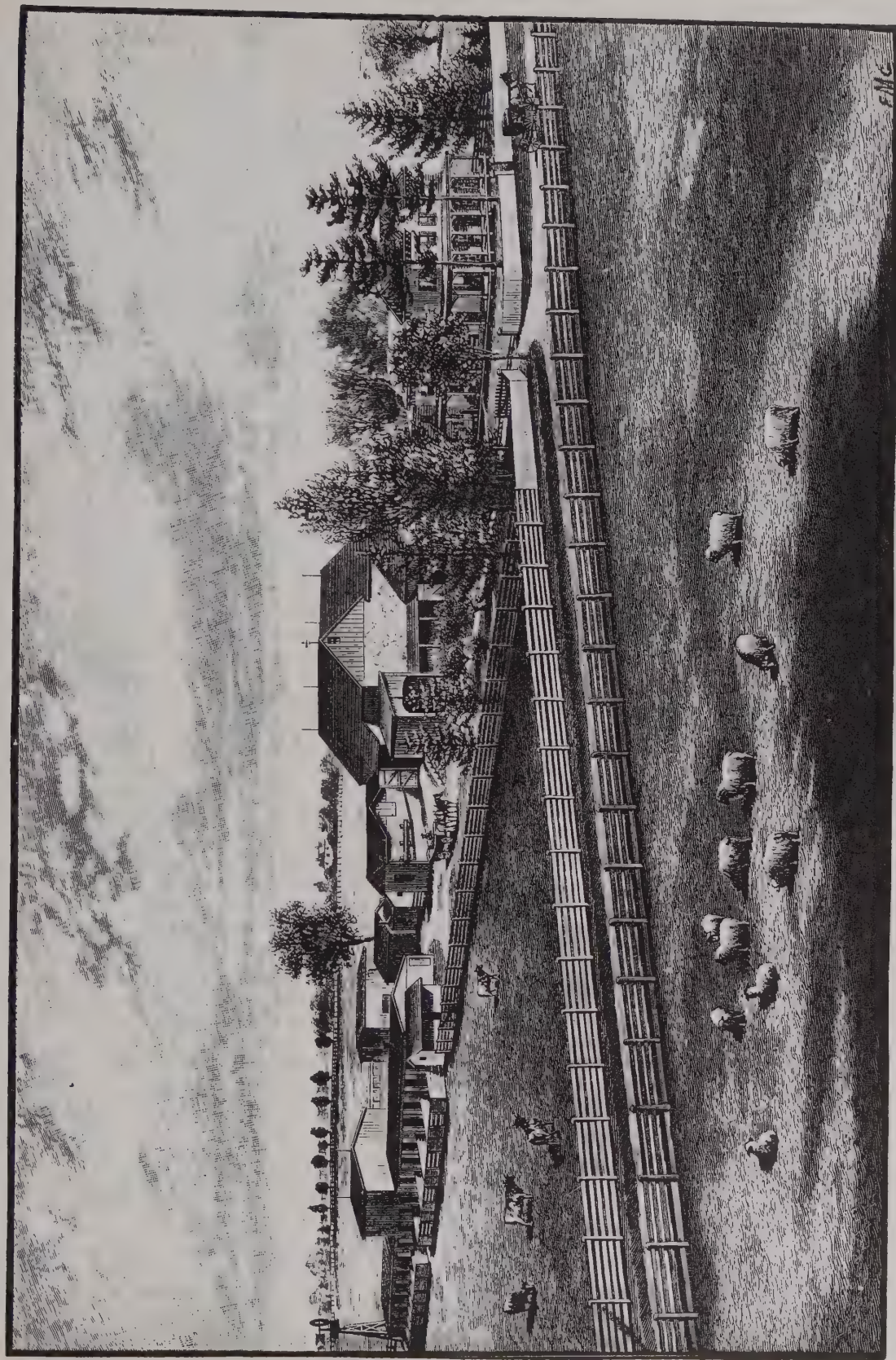
Nicholas Selser's farm was assessed as one hundred acres. He was constable of Gwynedd in 1774. It is probable that Henry and John, mentioned as single men, were his sons. Henry Bergy (fifty acres) was collector in 1776; Michael Hoffman, two hundred acres; John Conrad, sixty; Conrad Gerhart, one hundred; John Shelmire, fourteen; George Shelmire, ninety-six acres (the latter had a son George, who was a taxable); Matthew Lukens, one hundred and thirty acres and a saw-mill. Jacob Albright, constable in 1767, appears as a renter, taxed for two horses and two cows. Ezekiel Cleaver (one hundred and forty acres) was the son of Peter and Mary, of Upper Dublin, and a descendant of Peter Cleaver, of Germantown, who was naturalized in 1691.

The descendants of the early German settlers of Germantown and vicinity are also now quite numerous in Gwynedd, namely,—the Shoemakers, Cleavers, Lukens, Tysons, Custers, Snyders and Rittenhouses, concerning whom the want of space prevents us here from entering into details. A glance at the map of Gwynedd, as published in Scott's Atlas in 1877, will convince any one that the German element are extensive holders of real estate here at the present time.

Soon after the settlement of Gwynedd, efforts were made to have public highways laid out and opened for their general advantage and intercourse, especially to Philadelphia. In June, 1704, a petition was presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions wherein it was stated that there were "in said township above thirty families already settled, and probably many more to settle in and about the same, especially to the northward thereof, and as yet there is no road laid out to accommodate your petitioners, but what Roads and Paths have formerly been marked are removed by some and stopped by others." They therefore ask an order from the court for "a Road or Cartway from Phila-

delphia, through Germantown, to the utmost portion of their above-mentioned Township of North Wales." The court appointed six persons to lay out the road, but it appears not to have been fully opened until June, 1714. This is the present road leading by way of the Spring House and Chestnut Hill to the city. At March Sessions, 1711, a petition was presented to the court stating that a road had been laid out nine years before from a bridge between the lands of John Humphreys and Edward Foulke, in Gwynedd, to the mills on Pennypack, and that it be now confirmed as a public highway. Viewers were appointed, who, on March 28, 1712, went over the ground, and their report was adopted. This is the present Welsh road, forming the line between Upper Dublin and Horsham; it terminated in Moreland, where is now Huntingdon Valley. In June, 1714, a petition was presented for a road from Richland to John Humphreys', near the present Spring House, which was confirmed in 1717. In March, 1715, a road was desired by the "inhabitants of Gwynedd, Montgomery and Skippach," leading to the mill of David Williams, at the present Spring Mill, in Whitemarsh. Portions of the distance, they stated, had been in use as roads for ten or twelve years previous. This was confirmed and soon after opened. The road from the present Spring House to Horsham Meeting-house was laid out and confirmed in 1723. The road from the present Montgomery Square to Gwynedd Meeting-house was confirmed in 1728. The Goshenhoppen or Sumneytown road was surveyed and confirmed in June, 1735, commencing at the present Spring House. This old and important highway has milestones on its course bearing the date of 1767. What is now known as the Swedes' Ford road, leading to said place from Gwynedd Meeting-house, was ordered to be opened in 1738. In a survey of 1751 the distance from the Gwynedd meeting-house to Plymouth Meeting-house is stated to be seven miles and twenty-four perches. The State road crosses the centre of the township in a southwest course; it was laid out in 1830, forty feet wide.

The people of Gwynedd were fortunate in escaping many of the disasters of the Revolution, which befel some of their not very distant neighbors. The sympathies of the Welsh element, like the German, was generally inclined to the patriotic side. This may be more particularly observed in the residents of Lower Merion, who successfully maintained their neutrality though so near the city and between the contending armies. At this period the Society of Friends, with the Mennonites, Schwenkfelders and Dunkards, who were opposed to bearing arms through conscientious scruples, constituted a decided majority of the population. To their credit, however, not one was arrested here for treason or any property confiscated. No battle took place within its limits, nor was any marauding done by the contending parties. Small divisions of the American army several



SHEEP FARM.
WILLIAM M. SINGERLY,
GWYNEDD, MONTGOMERY CO., PA.

times passed over its territory, but this was all, with the exception of the breaking up of the camp at Valley Forge, June 19 and 20, 1778, when Washington and his whole command moved over the Swedes' Ford road, by way of Doylestown, to Wells' Ferry, now New Hope, where they crossed into New Jersey in pursuit of the retreating British, whom they encountered at Monmouth on the 28th. Miss Sally Wister, of Philadelphia, who was at that time staying with her relatives near the present Penllyn, states in her journal that on this march "Washington was escorted by fifty of the life-guard with drawn swords."

All men residing in the township liable to military duty, were enrolled into two companies. Captain Christian Dull had the lower command and Captain Stephen Bloom the upper, and both were attached to the Fourth Battalion of Philadelphia County militia, of whom William Dean, of Moreland, was colonel. For refusing to attend the musters of the aforesaid companies, sixty-eight persons were fined in one year two thousand seven hundred and sixty-eight pounds Continental currency, equivalent to seven thousand eight hundred and eighty dollars of our present money. As the total number of taxables in 1776 was one hundred and fourteen, we thus perceive that those fined must have considerably exceeded half the enrolled population liable to the service. The making out and collecting of those fines, as may be well imagined, imposed an unpleasant duty on the officers, the prejudices against whom have not yet died out or been forgotten in some of the old neutral families. It is a tradition that the old Friends' Meeting-house was used as a hospital immediately after the battle of Germantown, and that several soldiers who had died there were interred in the grave-yard beside the road.

A school-house was mentioned, in a road petition for 1721, as being situated near the dwellings of Rowland Hughes, Robert Humphreys and not far from the old road to Philadelphia, which, probably, was about half-way between the present Spring House and the Upper Dublin line. Mr. Jenkins, in his "Historical Collections of Gwynedd," mentions Marmaduke Pardo, a native of Wales, a teacher here in 1729, who may have taught in the aforesaid school-house. The Friends had charge of a school at the meeting-house in 1793, which it is supposed was there for some time before. Joseph Foulke, a respected minister among Friends, who for some time kept a boarding-school for boys on his farm, on the Bethlehem road, about a mile above the Spring House, states that when he went here to school, prior to 1795, the principal books used were the Bible and Testament, Dilworth's spelling-book and arithmetic. On and after that date he went to school to Hannah Lukens and Joshua Foulke, his uncle. They taught in a log school-house about half a mile above the Spring House. They were succeeded by William Coggins, Hannah Foulke, Benjamin Albertson, Hugh Foulke, John Chamberlain,

Christian Dull, Jr., Daniel Price and Samuel Jones, all of whom taught at that place prior to 1859. Joseph Foulke died February 15, 1863, in his seventy-seventh year. Hugh Foulke, mentioned, was a brother of the latter, and at his house, in October, 1855, he exhibited to the writer the family Bible of his great-grandfather, Hugh Griffith, one of the early settlers of Gwynedd, and which he had brought over with him, in the Welsh language, printed at London in 1654. Hugh Foulke died in 1864, aged seventy-six years.

The common-school system in Pennsylvania dates its origin to an act of the Legislature passed in 1834. The six school directors of Gwynedd for that year declined its acceptance, and opposition to it was maintained until 1840, when, through the influence of State appropriations, it was carried by a vote of eighty-six to eighty. In 1844 there were four schools, taught by four male teachers, with four hundred and fifty-two enrolled pupils. The average compensation to the teachers was twenty dollars per month, nine months open in the year. Two of the school-houses were "eight-square" or octagonal, a form of building then common. In 1856 the public schools in the township numbered six, eight months open, taught by six male teachers, with four hundred and thirty pupils enrolled and an average attendance of one hundred and fifty-five. The amount of tax levied for the support of the schools was \$1444.48. With the loss of North Wales and half of Lansdale, six schools are still maintained, however, nine months open, with only three hundred and thirty-four pupils enrolled, teachers' wages now being forty dollars.

Friends' Meeting House at Gwynedd, owing to its antiquity and long-extended influence, is deemed well worthy a separate article. From its being almost in the exact centre of the township or original purchase it was the third house of worship erected in the county, being preceded a few years only by those erected in Lower Merion and Abington. Nearly two centuries have now passed away since these occurrences, producing great changes in almost everything, and from which even their ancient meetings have not been by any means exempt. Hallowed and venerable associations cluster around them, the impress of which should by no means be entirely lost on their numerous and respected descendants. Posterity owes much to the past, and as long as gratitude exists it will remain a serious question as to the best or most proper method to meet such obligations. The labors of the historian are certainly not calculated to weaken such ties, but to ennoble or exalt them.

The minute-book of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting commences in 1714, but it is stated therein that this place was settled "and called by the name of Gwynedd township in the latter end of the year 1698 and the beginning of the year 1699. The principal settlers and purchasers, among others, were William Jones, Thomas Evans, Robert Evans, Owen Evans, Cadwalla-

der Evans, Hugh Griffith, John Hugh, Edward Foulke, John Humphrey and Robert Jones. Of this number those who were Friends met together "at the houses of John Hugh and John Humphrey, until more were added to their numbers." With the exception of the latter two and most probably Hugh Griffith, the remainder were attached to the Established Church of England. An identity of interests in this new settlement was calculated to draw them closer together. It is evident that the meetings held at the aforesaid houses led to the organization of this congregation. The churchmen for a brief term did assemble for worship at the house of Robert Evans, where his brother Cadwallader supplied in part the place of a minister, by reading to them portions of the services and passages from his Welsh Bible. This may not have been maintained much beyond a year, for on building the first small log meeting-house in 1700, on the site of the present edifice, they all united, assisted by later immigrants, who, must have also increased the body of Friends. The relation is that Robert and Cadwallader Evans first sought them by attending at their place of worship, and finally through their influence the rest were brought over, on which the meeting-house was agreed upon.

It is a well-settled tradition that William Penn and his daughter Letitia and a servant came out on horseback to visit the settlement shortly after its erection and that he preached in it, staying on this occasion overnight at the house of his friend, Thomas Evans, the first settler, who resided near by. As he returned in November, 1701, to England, we may determine nearly the time that this transient visit was made.

In consequence of this change in their religious principles, it would seem that the Rev. Evan Evans, a Welsh Episcopalian minister, was sent over here, in 1700, to make efforts to reclaim them. In a letter to the bishop of London, in 1707, he mentioned this settlement as "twenty miles distant from the city, where are considerable numbers of Welsh people, formerly, in their native country, of the communion of the Church of England; but about the year 1698—two years after my arrival in that country—most of them joined with the Quakers; but by God's blessing some of them were induced to return, and I have baptized their children and preached often to them." In the "Collections of the Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania," edited by Rev. W. S. Perry and published in 1861, considerable may be seen on this subject, which appears to have attracted some attention at the time. There is a tinge of exaggeration running through Mr. Evans' correspondence, (prompted, no doubt by his zeal,) that cannot now be substantiated by records. Partly in corroboration, Mr. Millett, in his "History of St. Thomas' Church, Whitemarsh," states that the "Rev. Evan Evans, who came to this country in 1700, for many years rector of Christ Church, Philadelphia, within two years after his arrival more than

five hundred followers of George Fox joined themselves to the Church of England."

The log meeting-house proving inadequate for the accommodation of the society, which was no doubt in part brought about by the influx of immigration and the continuous prosperity of the settlement, a subscription paper was drawn up in the Welsh language, in 1710-11, to which were signed sixty-six names headed by William, John and Thomas Evans. The sums ranged from one to eleven pounds each, the total reaching to about two hundred pounds. Hugh Griffith assisted in its building, and it was completed in 1712. It was considerably larger than the former, and was built of stone, with two galleries and a hip-roof. It occupied the former site, and the ground was a portion of Robert Evans' purchase, still covered with the original forest. The subscription paper mentioned is an interesting relic and has long been preserved and retained in the Foulke family.

Rowland Ellis, in behalf of Haverford, represented, on the 10th of Fourth Month, 1699, to the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, about this Welsh settlement, twenty miles distant, who had for some time held a First-day Meeting by their advice and consent, and, as they do not understand the English language, desired to be joined to Haverford Monthly Meeting, to which consent was given. At the Monthly Meeting held at Radnor Meeting-house on the 9th of Tenth Month, 1714, it was left for consideration as to what time the Monthly Meeting of Gwynedd and Plymouth be left to the appointment of this meeting by the Quarterly Meeting held in Philadelphia. The Third-day of every month was proposed and agreed upon.

Being now constituted a Monthly Meeting, they were allowed the privilege of recording all their births, marriages, deaths and removals, which had heretofore been entered in the records of Haverford. Plymouth Friends being few in numbers and the meetings being chiefly held here, it was called Gwynedd Monthly Meeting, which name has been ever since retained. John Evans was appointed the first clerk, and Edward Foulke and Robert Jones overseers. On the 26th of Second Month, 1715, Friends in Providence were allowed to hold a meeting on the first First-day of every month, and a few months thereafter liberty was given to have a burying-place. But the meeting-house again proving too small, it was decided, the 28th of Tenth Month, 1725, to have it enlarged, John Cadwallader, John Jones and John Evans being appointed a committee to have charge of the same.

The first ministers were Robert and Cadwallader Evans, of whom it is stated by Samuel Smith, in his "History of the Province of Pennsylvania," that "they could neither read nor write in any but the Welsh language." The former died in First Month, 1738, and was aged upwards of eighty years. Thomas Chalkley, in his journal, mentions being present at

his burial. Among other early ministers belonging here may be mentioned Evan Evans, Alice Griffith, Ann Roberts, John Evans, Hugh Foulke, Ellis, Hugh and Mary Evans. Evan Evans died in 1747, aged sixty-three years, and John Evans died in September 1756, having been in the ministry forty-nine years. John Fothergill, of England, visited this meeting several times in 1721, and again, on his return to America, in 1736. Alice Griffith was the wife of Hugh Griffith, and died in Second Month, 1749.

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting remained in Philadelphia Quarter until 1786, when it comprised, with Abington, Horsham, Richland and Byberry, Abington Quarter, whose meetings are now held at Abington in Second Month, Horsham in the Fifth, Gwynedd in the Eighth and Byberry in the Eleventh. The present meeting-house was built in 1823. It is a plain, substantial, two-story stone structure, forty by seventy-five feet in dimensions. When first built here, in 1700, the spot must have been very secluded. In the ample yard and burial-ground attached several original forest-trees are still preserved, one of these, a chestnut, nearly four feet in diameter. Near the southern corner of the yard is a stone bearing the name of Mary Bate, daughter of Humphrey and Ann Bate, who died in 1714.

The many associations of the past that cluster around this spot, where for three-quarters of a century was the only house of worship in the township, make it an object of much interest to the antiquary. That it is no longer flourishing is to be regretted, even by those not in membership. Respecting this subject, Mr. Jenkins, in his recent work, thus expresses himself:

"At the time of its erection the number of members and others who habitually attended warranted so large a house; but the time is long since past when its benches are filled, except upon very extraordinary occasions. For a number of years it has been the custom to open only half the house—the southern end—on First-days, and even this is more than sufficient for the congregations that usually assemble."

St. Peter's Church.—On the upper side of the Sumneytown turnpike, and but a short distance southeast of the incorporated limits of North Wales, may be observed a cemetery, which was the site of a church wherein worship was maintained jointly by the Lutherans and German Reformed for nearly a century. Though the spot may be now only pointed out within the inclosure, yet the result has been two flourishing and distinct congregations, each possessing a lot and church situated within less than half a mile's distance. Here was erected the second house of worship in the township, out of which they respectively originated.

Before the building of this church the members of the German Reformed denomination attended at Wentz's or Boehm's, and the Lutherans at St. John's, the former being in Worcester and the latter two in Whitpain. Among the prominent members of St. John's can be mentioned Michael Haenge, George Gossinger, Adam Fleck, Peter Young and Abraham

Danehower. These all resided in Gwynedd, and, of course, from its convenience, would take an active part in the erection of a house of worship in their vicinity. Philip Heist, having purchased of Abraham Lukens, Sr., fifty-one acres in 1772, on the upper side of the Old Goshenhoppen road, immediately below the present borough of North Wales, proffered half an acre from it for the use of a church, which was very probably erected thereon before 1775. Having died, his executors made a deed to the trustees of the church dated June 10, 1780, which states that said lot of ground is hereby granted for a house of worship, erected thereon for the use of the German Lutheran and Reformed denominations.

Tradition states that this church was a small frame building, and answered the purposes of these denominations until about 1817. It becoming too small for their numbers, a committee was appointed in the fall of 1815, consisting of George Neuvel, Jacob Kneedler, Conrad Shimmel, Joseph Knipe and Philip Lewis, to procure subscriptions and make collections for the erection of a larger and more commodious stone edifice. The corner-stone was probably not laid till near the beginning of May, 1817, and the church not finished until the following fall or winter. Among the other members who did much to aid the enterprise can be mentioned Philip Hurst, John Hurst, Abraham Danehower, Jacob Schwenk, John Martin, Adam Fleck, Christian Rex, Henry Hallman, and George, Joseph, Adam, Samuel and Daniel Kneedler. In consequence of its walls having been plastered with an ochre color, it received the name of the "Yellow Church." Its ceiling was lofty and galleries were placed on three of its sides. The pulpit was elevated and set directly against the wall, after the manner of that day.

For the want of records considerable obscurity is involved in the early history of this church. It is very probable that the first Lutheran pastor was Rev. Jacob Van Buskirk, of Germantown, who had charge of the Upper Dublin or Puff's Church, not five miles distant, from 1769 to 1785, and may have thus preached here, as we know he subsequently did. The earliest officiating pastor known was Anthony Hecht, the Lutheran portion of this congregation with that at Tohickon, having applied to the Ministerium for his ordination in 1785. He had been a schoolmaster in the neighborhood, and thus became known. The request was refused for several successive years. He, however, succeeded in being ordained by an independent preacher, and through this the congregation gave him the charge about 1787 until the close of 1792. This will account for his name not appearing on the regular records. The Rev. Jacob Van Buskirk became pastor in 1793, and of St. John's, in Whitpain, till 1795. The next was the Rev. Henry A. Geissenhainer, who was licensed at the request of the Upper Dublin and North Wales congregations, and continued in the charge until 1801. He soon after removed,

and was probably succeeded by Rev. Frederick David Schaeffer, assisted by his sons, David and Solomon, from Germantown, which arrangement was maintained to about 1810 or a little later. The Rev. John K. Weiant continued in the pastorate from 1812 to 1828, and also at Whitpain. Rev. George Heilig, received the charge of the two congregations near the close of 1826 until 1843. He was succeeded by Rev. Jacob Medtart, who was unable to preach in German; thus the English language became introduced, and has since been maintained. Rev. John W. Hassler followed Mr. Medtart in 1856, and continued until 1862, when he resigned for a chaplaincy in the army. Rev. P. M. Rightmeyer officiated from 1863 to 1867. The following year Rev. Ezra L. Reed succeeded, and was the last minister here. For some of the preceding facts we are indebted to the researches of Rev. B. M. Schmucker, of Pottstown.

Concerning the German Reformed congregation who worshiped here little is known. Rev. George Wack was ordained to the ministry in October, 1801, and on the 25th of April following, received the charge of Boehm's and Wentz's Reformed Churches, and St. Peter's from 1834 to 1845. This last congregation he resumed after resigning his connection with Boehm's church. He later preached occasionally to the North Wales members. He died in Whitpain, February 17, 1856, aged eighty years, and was buried in Boehm's churchyard. The Rev. Samuel Helfenstein had charge of the Boehm and Wentz congregations in 1797. The following year he went to Philadelphia, where he officiated in the Race Street Church. In 1832 he removed near North Wales, where he continued to reside until his death, October 17, 1866, aged ninety-one years, and where he was buried. He officiated occasionally in this church, but we have not ascertained to what extent.

During Mr. Reed's incumbency the old church needed repairs, and in consequence the German Reformed congregation decided to remove and erect a house of worship for themselves in the adjacent village of North Wales. This agitated the Lutheran congregation, who finally determined on the same course. The latter, in the spring of 1867, commenced subscriptions with such success that a lot was also secured within the limits of the present borough, and the new church completed by the close of 1869. As has been stated, for many years one pastor served St. Peter's and St. John's. In 1870 this arrangement was terminated, and since then each church has maintained its own pastor. Rev. L. G. Miller received the charge in 1874, Rev. Wm. H. Meyers in 1876, Rev. Theophilus Heilig in 1878, who was succeeded by the present incumbent, Rev. George D. Foust, in the summer of 1880. A Sunday-school was organized about 1831, to which, a few years later, a library was added, and both have since continued to flourish. The German Reformed Church was built about the same time, and thus old St. Peter's, after a use of upwards of half a

century, became abandoned, its walls razed and the recollection thereof left to soon pass away, except what may be preserved in history.

The Spring House Tavern.—In the history of Gwynedd from its earliest period this has been a noted vicinity, around which cluster many memorable occurrences. In 1698 John Humphrey settled here, and the Friends held their first meeting, for worship. Mention is made of a road being in use from here to the Pennypack Mills in 1702. Soon after 1704 the road was extended from the city, by this place, to the North Wales Meeting-house, a mile and a half distant. A bridge near by is mentioned as having been constructed before 1711. The road leading from here to Richland was confirmed in 1717, and was the commencement of the present Bethlehem road. From this point to Horsham Meeting-house the road was confirmed in 1723, and the Goshenhoppen or Sumneytown road in 1735. We see by this date that through the construction of these several highways and the extension of settlements farther into the interior this spot was calculated before long to become, in consequence, an important traveling centre.

The town of Bethlehem, on the Lehigh River, thirty-eight miles distant, was founded in 1741, and all travel from there and the surrounding country as well as from Allentown to Philadelphia was confined to the road passing by this place. It is probable that it was not long after the latter date that the first inn was located here, but at what exact time and by whom we are unable to say. Benjamin Davis kept a public-house at this point from 1758 to 1772. In April, 1758, Daniel Kunckler, on his journey from Bethlehem to Philadelphia, with six Indians in his charge, mentions stopping here. In a table of distances on the Bethlehem road, published in 1769, "Benjamin Davis's" is mentioned as being sixteen miles from the city. The first stage line passing through the present county was started in September, 1763, from Bethlehem to Philadelphia, making one weekly trip and stopping at this inn.

The road from this place, by the present Penllyn to Boehm's church was laid out in the spring of 1769, and mention is made in the report of its "beginning near a stone spring-house in Gwynedd road." Here we can perceive what has led to the origin of the name. This fact is further confirmed in a description of the tavern in 1827, wherein mention is made of a "durable spring of water a short distance from the door, over which is a stone milk-house." General Lacey mentions the "Spring House Tavern" in his dispatches of 1777, and the name is also mentioned in a report of a raid made in this direction by the British in February, 1778. That it is a striking and peculiar name there is no question, and it must therefore have originated here from just some such local cause.

Christian Dull, or rather Doll, in the German, of whom we shall give a few additional particulars, suc-

ceeded Davis as inn-keeper. He was a native of Perkiomen, and his father, bearing the same name, is mentioned in the census of that township taken in 1756, as having seven children and renting from Solomon Dubois one thousand acres of land, whereof two hundred are cleared. John Dull, who was probably a brother, is mentioned as a taxable and residing there in 1776. It is likely that Catharine Doll was also one of those seven children. She was married, in this county, to Charles J. Krauth. Their son, Charles Porterfield Krauth, D.D., LL.D., who died in 1883, aged sixty years, was one of the most eminent divines and scholars in the Lutheran Church. Christian Dull removed to the Spring House in 1772, where he was rated in 1776 as holding a tavern, eight acres of land, a horse and cow. The Revolution breaking out, he actively espoused the cause of his country. Owing to the connivance of some well-to-do people in this vicinity concerned in furnishing supplies of provisions and information to the British in Philadelphia, General Lacey stationed a portion of his men here for a short time to make arrests and intercept and check such practices.

The American army suffering greatly, in December, 1777, for clothing at Valley Forge, he was appointed to collect such supplies in his vicinity and forward them at once for their use. For the part he had taken in the war, on the organization of the Fourth Battalion of Philadelphia County militia, commanded by Colonel William Dean, he was chosen and commissioned a captain of one of the companies to be raised in his township. By accepting these several charges he was placed in a delicate position, much more so through a considerable majority of the surrounding population being bent on remaining neutral during the contest. Among his other duties was to report the fines of delinquents for not attending the musterings. No sooner did the war close than slander was busy to ruin his character and business. In the *Philadelphia Gazette* of February 17, 1783, he was induced in consequence to have inserted an advertisement offering a reward of one hundred guineas for the author of a report that he was "privy in robbing a collector." Some of the neutrals, or, rather, disaffected, in attending the Philadelphia market, reported there that himself and wife had been guilty of murdering one or more travelers, who had stopped at his house, for their property. To this he also replied in the spring of 1789, and again offered a similar reward. He states as to the latter that he had seven children, "several of them young and helpless." That such reports were damaging to the keeper of a public-house we do not wonder, even if they have never been proven. With it all, Christian Dull outlived many of his enemies, thrived in business and attained to a good old age, closing his career as the landlord of the Spring House tavern about the beginning of 1822.

He made a will appointing John Roberts one of his executors, but Roberts died in 1823, aged seventy-three

years, and therefore did not survive long enough to assist in carrying out the trust. John Roberts had been for many years a store-keeper here, and on the most friendly terms with Mr. Dull. The property was advertised at public sale November 8, 1827. It was described as "that well-known stand, commonly called the Spring House tavern, situate at the junction of the Bethlehem pike and the Allentown road, eighteen miles from Philadelphia, containing nineteen acres of land, a commodious stone tavern and stone house, in which store has been kept for more than thirty years past and stabling for more than one hundred horses." Mention is made, besides, of two other dwellings, a blacksmith and wheelwright-shop, and an adjoining farm of one hundred and twenty-six acres, with good buildings. This all denotes that Christian Dull, in his residence here of half a century, certainly did much for the improvement of the place. The extensive stabling will show what an amount of travel and hauling must have then been exclusively confined to the highways, since so much reduced by railroads. An additional stage line was placed on the road from Bethlehem in 1797, which also stopped here. What greatly added to the business of this stand was its suitable distance from the city for all travelers or market men stopping in coming or going that way. In October, 1804, Alexander Wilson, the distinguished ornithologist, with his two companions, on their pedestrian journey from Philadelphia to the Falls of Niagara, remained overnight here, and in his poem of "The Foresters" gives the following amusing account:

"The road was good, the passing scenery gay,
Mile after mile passed unperceived away,
Till in the west the day began to close,
And Spring House tavern furnished us repose.
Here two long rows of market folks were seen,
Ranged front to front, the table placed between,
Where bags of meat, and bones, and crusts of bread,
And hunks of bacon all around were spread;
One pint of beer from lip to lip went round,
And scarce a crumb the hungry house-dog found;
Torrents of Dutch from every quarter came,
Pigs, calves and sour-crust the important theme;
While we, on future plans resolving deep,
Discharged our bill and straight retired to sleep."

From "the two long rows of market folks" described, we can judge of the extent of Christian Dull's business at that time. This description of the economical arrangement of farmers taking their provisions along in going to market is no doubt true, and was even carried still further, by their sleeping on the bar room floors at night. Gordon, in his "Gazetteer of Pennsylvania," published in 1832, has well said that the Spring House is "a noted tavern." Four incorporated turnpikes meet here, the first constructed from Chestnut Hill in 1804, and the last to Penlynn and the Blue Bell in 1872. John W. Murray had the post-office established in 1829. The completion of the North Pennsylvania Railroad to Bethlehem, in

1857, was the first great blow to the travel on the roads, which has since more and more diminished through the construction of other railroads. The old stand here was kept by David Blyler for some time. On the opposite corner another public-house was established by Thomas Scarlett, and kept as such for many years, now occupied as a store and for the post-office. On the division of Gwynedd into two districts, in 1876, the voters of the lower section were authorized to hold their elections at the present public house on the site of the famous old hostelry, whose name it perpetuates.

ASSESSMENT OF GWYNEDD FOR 1776.

John Jenkins, assessor and Henry Bergy, collector.

Jesse Foulke, 210 acres, 6 horses, 6 cows and a grist and saw-mill: Thomas Evans, 230 a., 1 servant, 2 h., 6 c.; George Snyder, 150 a., 1 servant, 3 h., 6 c.; Michael Hawke, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Jephtha Lewis, 200 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Eneas Lewis, 160 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Isaac Lewis, 2 h., 3 c.; Reese, 200 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Humphrey Jones, 180 a., 3 h., 5 c.; George Gossinger, 100 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Melchior Kreamble, 119 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Philip Hood, 300 a., 4 h., 6 c.; Isaac Kolb, 143 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Isaac Kolb, Jr., 143 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Philip Heist, 120 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Thomson, 123 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Thomas Shoemaker, 110 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Margaret Johnson, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Stephen Bloom, 35 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Daniel Williams, 130 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Amos Roberts, 189 a., 3 h., 8 c., has 9 children; John Davis, 170 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Enoch Morgan, 100 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Nicholas Selser, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Morris Morris, 30 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Henry Rapp, 1 h., 1 c.; George Miller, Jacob Albright, 2 h., 2 c.; Samuel Gamble, 29 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Martin Schwenk, 160 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Abraham Donenhauer, 135 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Jacob Heisler, 147 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Henry Snyder, 175 a., 3 h., 6 c., has 9 children; Peter Troxal, 80 a., 2 h., 2 c., and grist and saw-mill; Thomas Evans, Jr., 140 a., 2 h., 4 c., supports his mother; Baltzer Spitznagel, 1 c.; William Williams, 120 a., 3 h., 5 c.; George Maris, 450 a., 4 h., 6 c.; Conrad Dimond, 40 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Walter Howell, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Thomas Leaman, 1 c.; Michael Hoffman, 200 a., 2 c.; Jacob Sigfried, 1 h., 2 c.; Barnabas Beaver, 50 a., and grist-mill; Matthew Lukens, 130 a., 2 h., 6 c., saw mill; Martin Hoffman, 1 c.; John Jenkins, 252 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Sarah Griffith, 300 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Joseph Griffith, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Benjamin Rosenberger, 50 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Knipe, 150 a., 1 h., 3 c.; William Dixey, 10 a., 1 h., 1 c., a cripple; Garret Clemmons, 136 a., 3 h., 6 c.; John Conrad, 60 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Christian Dull, 8 a., and tavern, 1 h., 1 c.; John Shelmire, 14 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Peter Buck, 50 a., 1 h., 2 c.; George Shelmire, 96 a., 1 h., 1 c.; George Shelmire, Jr., 3 h., 2 c.; William Erwin, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c., aged; Alexander Major, 150 a., 2 h., 6 c., 8 children; Joshua Foulke, 200 a., 3 h., 6 c.; John Sparey, 100 a., 2 h., 5 c.; George Fleck, 2 h., 3 c.; Ann Week, 100 a.; George Week, 7 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Samuel Castner, 50 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Everhart, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Nicholas Rice, 50 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Adam Fleck, 140 a., 3 h., 6 c.; John Davis, Jr., 75 a., 1 h., 1 c.; David Davis, 75 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Robert Davis, 75 a.; William Roberts, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Ezekiel Cleaver, 140 a., 4 h., 8 c.; John Evans, 250 a., 3 h., 8 c.; Michael Consler, 40 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Peter Young, 50 a., 1 h., 4 c.; Samuel Kastner, 80 a., 2 c.; Daniel Leblance, 75 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Smith, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Jacob Smith, Jr., 1 h., 2 c.; Jacob Wiant, 130 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Peter Hoffman, 1 h., 2 c.; Levi Foulke, 100 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Martin Baker, 57 a., 2 h., 2 c.; William Johnson, 123 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Hugh Foulke, 3 h., 2 c.; Conrad Gerhart, 120 a., 2 h., 5 c.; John Sidons, 1 c.; Conrad Smith, 2 h., 2 c.; William Moore, 2 h., 2 c.; Job Lukens, 20 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Henry Bergy, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Adam Smith, 1 h., 1 c.; Mathias Booz, 1 c.; Wendle Fetter, 15 a., 1 c.; William Springer, 2 h., 4 c.; John Singer, 50 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Philip Hurst, 80 a., 2 h., 5 c.; John Troxal, 25 a., 2 h., 1 c.; William Hoffman, 2 h., 4 c.; Evan Davis, 15 a., 1 c.; Christian Delacourt, Nicholas Shubert, 7 a., 1 c.; Michael Itzel, 1 a., 1 c.; Jacob Brown, 2 c.; Jacob Walton, 1 h., 1 c.; Jacob Preston, John Delacourt, 2 c.; Benjamin Williams, Philip Berckheimer. *Single-men.*—Hugh Evans, John Jenkins Jr., John Kidney, John Evans, Robert Roberts, David Harry, Jr., Rees Harry, Benjamin Harry, Joseph Lewis, John Johnson, Enoch Morgan, Joseph Long, John Williams, Evan Roberts, Eleazer Williams, Tillman Kolb, Griffith Edwards, Jacob Booz, William Smith, Rees Roberts, Robert Roberts, Henry Selser, John Selser, Christian Knipe, George Sperry, William Oman, Samuel Singer, Conrad Booz, George Ganger, Joseph Yost, Benjamin Gregory, Abraham Donenhauer.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JACOB B. RHOADS.

Jacob B. Rhoads, one of the thrifty and enterprising farmers of Gwynedd township, and one who has made agriculture a study and a success, was born on the farm he now owns, July 20, 1820. His early life was spent upon the old homestead farm, half a mile from the town of North Wales, and his educational advantages were such as the common schools of that period afforded.

He commenced business for himself in 1846, when he rented his father's farm, and attended strictly to that branch of business for several years, or until 1856, laying well the foundation for the future success that has attended his every enterprise. In the latter year he added to the duties and responsibilities of a large farmer that of butchering for the Philadelphia markets, which he has successfully carried on to the present time.

At the death of his father, in 1866, he inherited one-half of the old homestead farm, containing one hundred and forty acres, and purchased from the heirs the other half. The farm was formerly owned by Joseph Evans, and purchased by Abraham, father of Jacob B. Rhoads, in 1806. The North Pennsylvania Branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad passes through the farm of Mr. Rhoads, and the long, deep cut and tunnel south of North Wales is on or through his farm. Since Mr. Rhoads has owned the old homestead he has remodeled the dwelling and built the large and commodious barns and out-buildings, that are not only a convenience for the farm, but an ornament to that part of the township where they are located. He has also owned two other farms of one hundred acres each, which he sold to George Castner and G. B. Kittlehaus.

Mr. Rhoads has by his industry, economy and fair dealing with his fellow-men not only merited but has received their confidence and esteem in business transactions, and has been honored for six years with a seat in the board of school directors of his township.

Mr. Rhoads married, March 13, 1845, Ann Jenkins, who was born November 22, 1818. The result of this union has been as follows: Sarah Amanda, born December 10, 1846, married, October 29, 1868, to George W. Castner; Mary, born March 18, 1851, married, January 20, 1885, to Charles Jacobs; Anna, born June 24, 1857, died December 23, 1857; Abraham J., born September 7, 1859, married, October 23, 1883, to Elizabeth Hood.

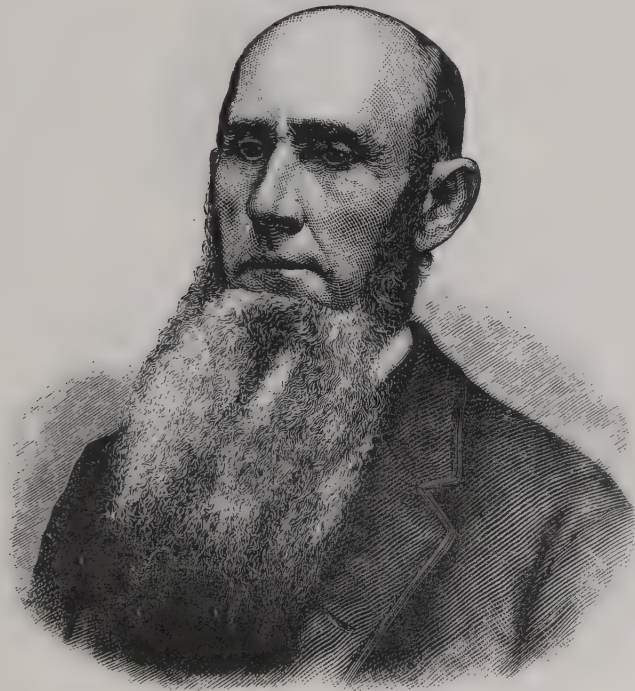
Abraham, the father of Jacob B. Rhoads, was born December 4, 1782, and died November 22, 1866. His wife, Sarah Baker Rhoads, died April 3, 1840. Their children were as follows: Charles, born February 3, 1816, died October 6, 1820; Jacob B., born July 20, 1820; Elizabeth, born November 5, 1823, married,

February 20, 1849, to Jacob Acuff; Annie, born March 7, 1827, married, May 1, 1856, to George Colyer (she died January 17, 1857); Samuel; Joseph; Morris; Issachar; Catharine; Ellen; and Ezekiel. Ann, mother of Abraham and grandmother of Jacob B. Rhoads, died March 16, 1839.

JAMES W. BISSON.

Mr. Bisson is of Huguenot ancestry, his great-grandfather, Charles, who was born in France in 1756, having come to the United States in his youth, where he followed his trade of tailor. He married Miss

children,—Evan, who served with distinction in the war of the Rebellion, and subsequently removed to Nebraska; and Phebe. By a second marriage, to Hannah Skeen, were children,—James W. and Elizabeth Virginia (Mrs. Chalkley Jarrett). The death of Mr. Bisson occurred at his house on the 5th of August, 1876. His son, James W., was born September 17, 1842, in Gwynedd township, his present residence. The schools near by afforded opportunities for a common English education, after which he devoted a season to study at Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College, in Philadelphia, and became thoroughly



J. B. Rhoads

Elizabeth, daughter of Evan Roberts. On his death, in 1825, his remains were interred in Bethel Church burial-ground.

His son, Evan Bisson, was born in 1779, and died in 1851. He made the township of Gwynedd his residence, and there plied industriously the trade of a stone-mason, in addition to which he cultivated a farm. He married Ann Reiff, of the same county, whose children were Charles, Samuel, John, Richard, Hilary, Elizabeth, Mary Ann and Malinda. Hilary was born in Montgomery County and acquired the trade of his father, which he conducted on an extensive scale both in his native town and in the adjacent counties. He married Rebecca Eaton, and had

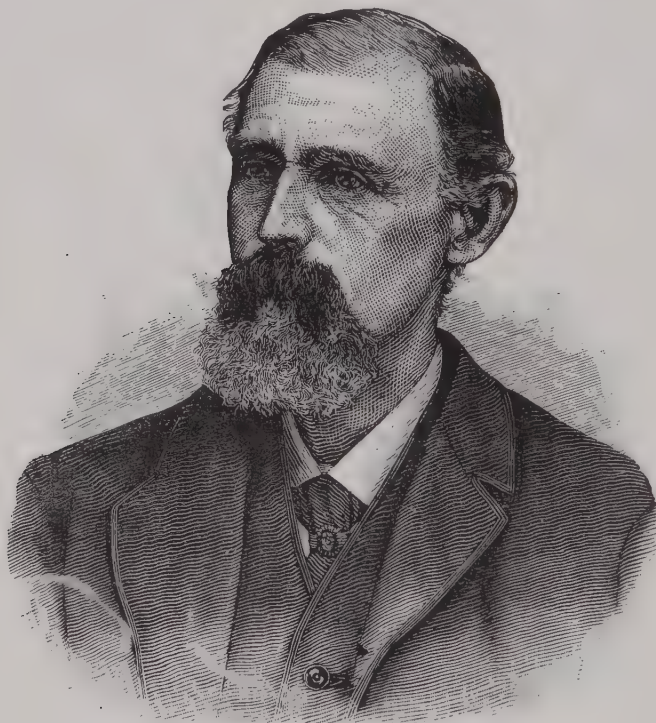
familiar with the principles of business. Returning to his father's farm, he remained a valued assistant until twenty-five years of age, and then by purchase became the owner of the homestead farm, formerly the property of his grandfather. He has since that date devoted his energies to farm employments, meanwhile gratifying his taste for horticulture by propagating rare fruit, and also engaging largely in the breeding of fine fowls, in which he has established an extended reputation and derived much profit. Mr. Bisson was married, February 20, 1868, to Miss Kate, daughter of John S. Danehower, of the same township. They have one child, a daughter, Lilly May, born on the 15th of September, 1884. Mr.

Bisson is in politics a Republican, but not actively interested in public measures. He is a member of Othello Lodge, No. 50, of Knights of Pythias, and of Montgomery Council, No. 18, of the order of United American Mechanics.

ALLEN BERKHIMER.

Mr. Berkheimer represents one of the oldest families in Montgomery County. His grandfather, who was Jacob Berkheimer, married Maria Rubican, of Delaware County, Pa., and had children,—George, Charles,

possible in the country at that date. He became familiar with the labor of the farm, and lent a willing hand to the cultivation of his father's land until the occasion of his marriage, when, desiring to be more independent, he for two years worked it on shares, and subsequently spent a brief period at Penllyn. On his return he became the lessee of the property, and the owner on the death of his parent. He was married, on the 4th of March, 1875, to Miss Lizzie P., daughter of Samuel A. and Maria Posey Willetts, of Gwynedd township. Their children are Charles W.,



J. W. Bisson

William, Julia Ann, Susan. He purchased, in 1824, the property now occupied by his grandson, and resided upon it until his death, when it came by inheritance to Charles, his eldest son. The latter married Mary Ann, daughter of Jacob Fleck, of Gwynedd township, and had children,—Mary Ann (Mrs. David Dunnett), Allen and Anna (Mrs. Milton Ruch). Allen was born on the 6th of July, 1842, in Upper Dublin township, Montgomery Co., and at an early age removed with his parents to Gwynedd township, where his youth was devoted to acquiring a modest education under such favorable circumstances as were

born in 1867; Samuel W., born in 1877; Bessie W., in 1878; and Allen W. in 1880. Mr. Berkheimer is a Democrat in politics, but too much engaged in the absorbing duties connected with the farm to devote special attention to the political issues of the day. He was, nevertheless, the incumbent of the office of postmaster while a resident of Penllyn. He is a member of Spring House Lodge, No. 329, of Independent Order of Odd-Fellows; of Fort Washington Lodge, No. 308, of Free and Accepted Masons; of Fort Washington Chapter, No. 220; of Fort Washington Lodge, of Knights of Pythias, No. 148; of the Benevolent Society of Fort

Washington, of which he is a trustee; and of the Am-
bler Beneficial Society, of which he is treasurer. He
is also a director of the First National Bank of Am-
bler, and has been for ten years a director of the Am-
bler Building Association. Mr. Berkheimer was edu-
cated in the faith of the German Lutheran Church, and
worships at the church of that denomination in Upper
Dublin, to the support of which he contributes, as to
that of many other worthy causes.

ALLEN THOMAS.

William Thomas, who was the great-great-grand-
father of the subject of this biographical sketch, in

gomery County, where he acquired the trade of a
blacksmith, and followed it in connection with the
occupations of a farmer. He married Mary, daughter
of James Craig, of New Britain, Bucks Co., Pa., and
had children,—Albert, Allen, Charles B., Ashbel C.,
Ann E. (Mrs. John Lampen) and Abel. The death
of Mr. Thomas occurred on the 2d of July, 1882. His
son Allen was born January 20, 1827, in Gwynedd
township. After a period of youth devoted to study
he removed to Bucks County, Pa., and embarked in the
lumber business, where the advantages of trade were
sufficiently great to make him a resident for fifteen
years. Mr. Thomas then returned to his native



Allen Berkheimer

the last century emigrated from Wales to America and
settled in Hilltown, Bucks Co., Pa., where he ac-
quired twelve hundred and fifty acres of land and
filled the double rôle of a farmer and a Baptist
preacher. Among his family of seven children was
Thomas, born in Wales and an infant at the time of
his father's emigration.

Thomas resided on the homestead in Hilltown, where
his life was spent in the cultivation of its productive
acres. His son Asa succeeded his father on the
estate. Abel, the second son of the latter, was born
in 1799, and removed when a young man to Mont-

gomery County and engaged in the same pursuit in Frederick
township. In 1879 he became again a resident of
Gwynedd township, where he conducts an extensive
and successful business in hardwood lumber. Mr.
Thomas was, in December, 1848, married to Anna R.,
daughter of John Goucher, and has children,—Emma
G. (Mrs. M. K. Gilbert), born in 1849; William B.,
in 1851; Franklin P., in 1853, deceased; Martha K.,
in 1854, deceased; Arthur K., in 1857; Lukens, in
1859; Mary, in 1861; Lizzie L., in 1862; Alfred, in
1865; and Edward K. in 1866. Mr. Thomas is in his
political preferences a Democrat, though not ambi-

tious for the distinctions of office. He is president of the West Point Turnpike Company, and actively connected as a Mason with Shiloh Lodge, No. 558, of Lansdale, as also with Zieglerville Lodge of Knights of Pythias. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are members of the North Wales Baptist Church.

the tributaries of that stream. The surface is rolling, and has an easy drainage into the creeks named; the prevailing soil is red clay, with surface loam, the productive character of which has been greatly improved by the enterprising farmers within the last quarter of a century.



CHAPTER LVII.

HATFIELD TOWNSHIP.

THIS township is located on the line of Bucks County, and adjoins Montgomery on the east, Towamencin on the southwest, Franconia on the northwest and the borough of Lansdale on the south. It is three and three-quarters miles long and three miles wide, with an area of eleven square miles, or seven thousand and forty acres. The area was reduced by the incorporation of Lansdale as a borough, in 1872, a considerable portion of the borough being taken from this township. The township is located on what is sometimes called the "divide," or highest point between the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers. Streams of water rising and flowing in and through this township empty into both rivers. The head-waters of the Neshaminy rise in this township, also of the Skippack, or rather

The name of this township is thought by Wm. J. Buck to have been derived from a town and parish in Hertfordshire. He also says that a John Hatfield resided in Norriton township as early as 1734; there are circumstances that point to the possible derivation of the name from a family long known to have been residents of the county. The following places of business were among the assessed property for 1785: two grist-mills, one saw-mill, one tannery; there was one hotel licensed in the township for the same year. The population in 1800 was 520; in 1830, 835; in 1850, 1135; in 1870, 1512; in 1880, 1694.

The taxables in 1828, were 211; in 1858, 346; and in 1884, 465. We are unable to state the date when the township was decreed by the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia County. It did not exist prior to 1741, and was known to exist at the close of the Revolution, as it appears that damages were

assessed to Jacob Reed, forty-five pounds, and Isaac Wisler, twenty-five pounds, both of Hatfield, resulting from incursions of the enemy; this country was open to the foraging-parties of Lord Howe while wintering his army in Philadelphia, in 1777-78, and the scattered farmers doubtless suffered more or less loss in consequence. John Fries, of "Fries' Rebellion" notoriety, was born in this township about 1750. Fries removed to Bucks County and entered the military service with the patriots. He resisted the "House and Window Tax Law," and subsequently, by his contempt for the authorities authorized to collect it, made himself so obnoxious that he was arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to be hung, April, 1799. The event was of great local interest at the time, and by the interposition of kind and influential friends, he was pardoned by President John Adams. Mr. Fries died about 1820.

The villages in the townships are Line Lexington, situated on the county line, and partly in Bucks County; Hatfield, Colmar, Hockertown.

The North Pennsylvania Railroad passes in an almost direct line through the centre of this township, in a northwestern direction. The Doylestown Branch of the same railroad, leaving Lansdale, passes through the northeast portion of the township, with a station at Colmar. These public improvements have been of great advantage to the inhabitants and land-owners, affording improved facilities for the transportation of farm products, and also convenient depots for the shipment of hay, feed, lime, manure, lumber and all those commodities dealt in by an enterprising agricultural community. The township is well provided with public highways intersecting every part of it, all of which are kept in good order, with substantial bridges over the streams crossing them. The main line of railroad, leaving Lansdale, passes through and near lands now or late of A. Swepenhiser, J. Reed, J. Krupp, T. House, H. Heckman, P. Boyer, J. Steiner, W. Steiner, D. Rosenberger, the Evangelical Church grounds, J. Rosenberger, reaching Lower Hatfield village, thence, a short distance, Upper Hatfield village, and beyond, through lands of J. H. Rosenberger, E. Kriebler, John Frick, A. H. Rosenberger, S. Shellenberger, C. Gehman and H. Clemmer. The Doylestown Branch passes through lands now or late of P. S. Jenkins, H. Hoppel, J. Troyard, M. Kramer, J. M. Gilmer, A. Manuel, J. Kile, P. Hondel, J. Allebach, G. Garmer, M. Bechtel, N. Harrar, J. M. Jenkins, A. H. Fretz and others, reaching Colmar, a station and railroad village. Everything here indicates a place of recent growth. The railroad at this point crosses an old turnpike road, first opened as a common or dirt road in 1735, then called the Bethlehem road. Along this highway are seen many fine old-time farm-houses, large and substantially built, and in striking contrast with the more modern and ornamental residences comprising the village of Colmar. There is a large and com-

monious hotel, a country store, a large warehouse, under the management of I. R. Rosenberger, who deals extensively in feed, flour, hay and those commodities necessarily connected with such establishments, there being extensive railroad sidings for the shipment of coal, lime, manure, lumber, live stock, etc.

Treewigtown, or Hatfield Square, as it is called in Scott's Atlas, is situated on the old Bethlehem road, about a mile northwest of Colmar. The village is formed of residences scattered along the road, and indicates its ancient origin by the old-time Farmers' and Drovers' Hotel, a place of local importance when market men drove to and from Philadelphia with their produce, when stages ran through from Bethlehem to Philadelphia, and dairy and stock cattle were driven through the country and nightly herded at these old-time taverns, like this one, having farm-lands connected with it for pasturage. The old-time industries are here represented by blacksmiths, shoemakers, wood-workers and the toll-gatherer. A half-mile or more northwest of this village is the Line Lexington, a portion of which is situated in this township. This is an old settlement, spoken of by the historian Gordon as early as 1832, who says it contained at that time eight or ten dwellings and a post-office. The place has grown very considerably since then, having upwards of fifty residences, a hotel, two stores and the usual mechanical industries.

Villages have grown up with rapidity at Upper and Lower Hatfield Stations, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad. Lower Hatfield takes precedence in age. Located at the junction of the "Old Cowpath" and "Forty-Foot" roads, it was many years ago known as a village, and since the location and opening of the railroad it has become a centre of local trade and traffic for the township, finding a sharp rival in its sister village, a short distance from it. Among its places of business are found a hotel, a store for the sale of general merchandise, two hay-presses, coal-yard, drug-store and a number of mechanical industries, all of which appear to be in a prosperous condition at the time we write.

Upper Hatfield, though of more recent origin, presents the appearance of a young and promising village. It owes its existence, in some measure, to the enterprising character of Joseph Proctor, Esq., a citizen of Hatfield township, who purchased a considerable tract of land where the town and railroad station is located, and divided it into building lots, encouraged improvements and the building of residences. There is here a convenient station for passengers and freight, a hotel, store for the sale of general merchandise, with the post-office, coal and lumber-yard, tinsmith and other industries. H. M. Ziegler is the postmaster at the place. Both Upper and Lower Hatfield villages are of local importance to the township, situated so near its centre, the former affording a convenient point of shipment for milk and general

farm produce, and for the distribution of freight and the general supplies consumed and used by an agricultural community. The following exhibit of the mercantile appraiser for the year 1884 illustrates the commercial enterprise of the people of this township: Jeremiah Alderfer, produce; George Brecht, merchandise; E. K. Blanck, drugs; William Bear, butcher; James Clark, Jr., stoves; Frank Cassel, agricultural implements; William B. Fretz, stoves, etc.; Isaac R. Hunsberger, organs; Earl Jenkins, butcher; Jacob Kindig, butcher; I. R. Kulp, hay; I. R. Kulp, coal, lumber; I. R. Kulp, flour and feed; Henry Kile, butcher; Joseph Landis, lumber; William B. Moyer, butcher; B. M. Moyer, merchandise; Joseph Proctor, live stock; I. R. Rosenberger, flour, feed; I. R. Rosenberger, hay; J. M. Romich, live stock; H. Robinson, merchandise; F. H. Souders, flour, feed; F. H. Souders, coal; F. H. Souders, lumber, hay; A. Sorver, lumber; D. Smith, sewing-machines; Philip Swartly, butcher; George Snyder, hay; George Snyder, coal; George Snyder, flour, feed; Isaac Tyson, live stock; John Treffinger, butcher; Ziegler & Meyers, merchandise; H. M. Ziegler, merchandise.

Educational.—The common-school system is said to have gone into operation about the year 1840. The leading citizens of the township have always taken a lively interest in the education of the young, but it is due to say that a conservative element has always opposed "long terms" and advanced salaries for teachers. This conservatism has recently found expression in the township in opposing the creation of an independent school district for the better accommodation of the progressive inhabitants of Upper and Lower Hatfield villages. The district has been created, and the advantages will doubtless be enjoyed by those seeking the benefit of longer terms and superior teachers, although residing beyond its limits.

At present (1884) there are six schools in the township, with three hundred and fifty-nine pupils enrolled. The length of term for the present year is seven months, and the salary paid to teachers is forty dollars per month. Male and female teachers are employed, and equal salaries are paid them. There is an independent school district at Line Lexington, the advantages of which are shared by a portion of the inhabitants of this township. The cost of maintaining it is distributed as follows among the townships out of which it was created; one-fourth from Hatfield township, one-fourth from Hilltown township, and one-half from New Britain township, the two latter townships being in Bucks County. The average attendance is fifty pupils.

Elections.—By act of the General Assembly, approved March 24, 1818, the township of Hatfield was formed into a separate election district, and the elections ordered to be held at the house of John Buchanan. By a similar act, approved April 11, 1825, the place of holding the elections was changed to the

house of Peter Conver, and again, by a similar act of April 23, 1829, the elections were ordered to be held at the house of Jacob C. Bachman. The elections are now held at the public-house of Oliver Althouse, in Lower Hatfield village.

Religious Worship.—There is a Mennonite meeting-house located on what is locally known as the "Plains," or township line road, between Hatfield and Towamencin, and in the latter township; another of the same denomination, known as the New Mennonite Church, near Hatfield village; both of these places of religious worship are plain, unpretentious structures, such as are in use by this denomination throughout this part of the country; comforts and necessary conveniences are provided for, but all ornate embellishments of exterior and interior are studiously avoided.

The Evangelical or German Baptists' Church is situated on the Cow Path road, a short distance south of Hatfield village; this is a plain but substantial structure, corresponding with the habits and tastes of the humble people who worship there.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

HON. OLIVER G. MORRIS.

Cadwallader, the lineal ancestor of Oliver G. Morris, immigrated from Wales, located in Pennsylvania and intermarried with the Thomas family, who also came from Wales to this country in the early part of the last century.

Morris Morris, son of Cadwallader Morris, married Gwently Thomas, and had seven children,—Cadwallader (second), Abraham, William, Benjamin, Enoch, Joseph and Morris, Jr.

Morris Morris, Sr., husband of Gwently Thomas, inherited two hundred and sixty-seven acres of land lying at Hilltown, which he possessed and bequeathed to his son, Cadwallader (second), the latter paying his brothers different sums of money. A cane which belonged to Morris Morris, was, in 1885, owned by Oliver G. Morris, of Line Lexington, and has been in the family as an heir-loom over one hundred and fifty years.

Cadwallader, the eldest son of Morris and Gwently Morris, was born in 1737. He was a man of considerable education for those days. He became a school teacher and surveyor, and was widely known at that early period, and was sought after for his skill and knowledge concerning many things. He married Elizabeth Kastner, of Hilltown, and died August 23, 1812, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife survived him a few years. Their children were Alice, Abel, William, Rebecca and Hannah.

William, son of Morris and Gwently Morris, the great-grandfather of Oliver G. Morris, was born

March 5, 1739. William was married, in 1763, to Ann, daughter of Nathaniel Griffith, of Hilltown, where now (1885) stands the Leidytown Hotel, which property William Morris subsequently purchased. William and Ann both died at the house of their son Isaac, in the village of Line Lexington, the former on April 22, 1821, aged eighty-two years, and the latter on July 17, 1821, at the age of seventy-seven years. Their children were Isaac, Benjamin, Morris, Eliam, William, Jr., Griffith, Ann, Elizabeth and Huldah.

Isaac Morris, grandfather of the subject of this

6, 1806. She was a person of much intelligence and vivacity of mind, as well as business tact and ability; a good and estimable woman in all the relations of life. She died August 1, 1856, aged eighty-five years. Isaac died Sept. 13, 1843. By his first wife Isaac was the father of three children,—Mathias, Justus and William. The two latter died young.

Mathias Morris was born Sept. 12, 1787. He possessed unusual abilities, and was proficient in classical literature. He studied law with his cousin, Enoch Morris, and was admitted to the bar at Newtown in 1809, where he lived some time. He mar-



Oliver G. Morris

sketch, was born May 5, 1764, and was twice married. He purchased, in 1789, the ancestral homestead of Gwenty Morris, his grandmother, adjoining the Lower Hilltown Baptist Church, which he held till about 1805, when he removed to Line Lexington, where he was for many years justice of the peace. Isaac married, October 12, 1786, for his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Mathias. She was born Sept. 12, 1765, and died Aug. 28, 1803. The second wife of Isaac was Rachel, daughter of Benjamin Mathews, Esq. She was born Feb. 21, 1771, and married April

ried Wilhelmina, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Chapman, and sister of Hon. Henry Chapman. In 1828 he was elected to the State Senate, and re-elected for a second term, and was elected two terms to Congress, 1834 and 1836. He died Nov. 9, 1839, aged fifty-two years. His widow lives in Doylestown, with her daughter, Mary Ann, who married John C. Lyman, of Vermont. The children of Isaac Morris, by his second wife, were Oliver Goldsmith and Burgess Allison (twins), and John D. The first-named died in 1826, aged nineteen years.

John D. Morris was born April 9, 1811, became a lawyer and practiced his profession for many years in Stroudsburg. He represented Monroe County in the State Legislature in 1851 and 1852, and subsequently held responsible positions in the Philadelphia Mint and Custom House, under the administrations of Pierce and Buchanan. He was an excellent man, affable and agreeable in manner, and popular among his acquaintances. His wife was Sally, daughter of Stroud and Jeannette Hollinshead of Stroudsburg. He died in Line Lexington, at the house of his nephew, Oliver G. Morris, Jan. 5, 1868.

Burgess Allison Morris was born Dec. 23, 1806, and on Jan. 28, 1836, married Mary G., daughter of John Riale, Esq. She died June 27, 1837, leaving one son, Oliver Goldsmith Morris.

John Riale, the father of Mary G. Morris, was for many years a prominent man of New Britain, and long a justice of the peace of that township, and held in just esteem by all who knew him. He was the son of Richard Riale and grandson of John Riale, who emigrated from England about 1725. He was twice married, the second time to Elizabeth Griffith, the mother of Mary G. Morris. The second wife of Burgess A. Morris was Matilda Hoxworth.

Oliver Goldsmith Morris was born March 26, 1837, at Line Lexington, on the old homestead. His early life was spent upon the farm, until the death of his father, which occurred December 20, 1847. He was then sent to a boarding-school at New Britain, kept by Rev. John C. Hyde, for a term of three years, then to the Treemount Seminary, at Norristown, Rev. Samuel Aaron, principal, for two years; then returned to the farm, where he has since continued to reside, engaged in farming and such other occupations as are usually connected with that branch of business. He needs no laudations in this connection to prove the character of the man, nor to show the estimation in which he is held by the citizens of that part of the county in which he lives. His business connections and the suffrages of the people are the best tests of the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow-townsmen. When at the age of twenty-one years he was elected a school director, and in April, 1884, was re-elected for the ninth term, of three years each, to the same office, and has been secretary of the board and district superintendent from his first election to the present time.

He has been for several years one of the board of managers of the Spring House and Hilltown Turnpike Company, also one of the managers of the Line Lexington Fire Insurance Company. He has been one of the directors of the Stony Creek Railroad Company for fifteen years, secretary of the Self-Defense Horse Company of Line Lexington for twenty-three years, a trustee of the Hilltown Baptist Church for twenty-five years, and was a member of the State Legislature for the sessions of 1871, 1872 and 1873, and also held the office of assistant assessor of inter-

nal revenue under the administration of President Johnson. He was married, October 11, 1858, to Miss Susannah, daughter of Michael and Mary Snyder. She was born Jan. 12, 1840. They are the parents of the following children,—John D., born April 17, 1861, died June 23, 1864; Charles E., born Sept. 14, 1863; Allison M., born March 29, 1866, died July 28, 1866; W. Norman, born Sept. 28, 1867; Mary, born May 17, 1870; Arthur S., born Jan. 4, 1877.

The father of Mrs. Morris was a son of Jacob and Elizabeth Snyder, who were born in Bucks County, Pa. The mother of Mrs. Morris, Mary Snyder, was a daughter of Isaac and Susanna Rosenberger, of Hatfield township, Montgomery Co.

ISAAC R. ROSENBERGER.

Isaac, the grandfather of Isaac R., was a well-to-do and highly respected farmer, living in Montgomery County, Pa., near the village of Line Lexington, on the farm now owned by Milton Jenkins. Mr. Rosenberger was of German descent, his parents, Isaac and Christiana, emigrating to this country about the middle of the last century, and located where Isaac lived nearly or quite all his lifetime. He died leaving children as follows: Martin, now living at or near Broad Street, Bucks Co., Pa.; Isaac D., now living at North Wales, this county; Joseph, father of Isaac R., the subject of this sketch; William, who died in Philadelphia; John; Elizabeth, married, first, a Mr. Eckert, and for her second husband, she married Michael Snyder, also deceased; she is still living, and resides in Bucks County; Sarah, deceased, left her husband, Jacob Ruth; Mary, married — Snyder, and became the mother of Mrs. Oliver G. Morris.

Joseph Rosenberger, father of Isaac R. Rosenberger, was born September 15, 1811, and died March 30, 1877, at the age of sixty-five years, six months and fifteen days. He married Mary, daughter of Henry Ruth, of Bucks County. She was born February 4, 1815, and died July 1, 1881, aged sixty-six years, five months and seven days. They were the parents of children as follows: Susannah, married Reuben Alderfer, of Hilltown, Bucks Co., Pa; Emeline, deceased, married, first, Abram Hursberger, and for her second husband, William Souder; Anna Mary, married Mahlon Myers, who resides at Perkasio, Bucks Co., Pa.; Isaac R., born July 15, 1846; Joel, married Sally, daughter of the late Dr. Joseph Moyer, deceased; Lizzie, married Edwin Jones, and now resides at Doylestown; Charles R., married Amanda Fluck, of Hilltown, Bucks Co., and is now a partner with his brother, Isaac R., in the coal, flour, feed and hay business, at Colmar and at Doylestown, Pa.

Joseph Rosenberger, the father of these children, was a farmer, merchant and lumber dealer at Mount Pleasant, Bucks Co., Pa., where he located after marriage and where he died. He was one of those well

and favorably known popular men who always looked upon the bright side of life, beloved and respected by all who knew him, and especially by the poor and needy, who well remember his acts of kindness, many of whom he had, from time to time, in his employ. He was prominently identified with township and county affairs, yet in no sense of the word a politician. He was for many years prior to his death one of the directors of the Doylestown Bank. His demise left a void in the community still unfilled.

Isaac R. Rosenberger spent his early life upon the farm of his father during the summer months, and at

business, having all the facilities of a large and commodious warehouse, with all the necessary railroad facilities. In the early part of 1885 the Rosenberger Brothers extended their business by building a large warehouse, with railroad accommodations, at Doylestown, where they are also engaged in the same kind of trade as at Colmar Station.

Isaac R. was married December 4, 1866, to Miss Harriet, daughter of William and Sarah Bruner, of Chalfont, Bucks Co. His wife was born February 16, 1848. They are the parents of children,—Mary Alice, born April 12, 1868, died September 29, 1881; Harrington,



I. Rosenberger

the district school in the winter season, until he was fifteen years of age. From that time until he arrived at the age of twenty-one years he performed such work as was necessary for him to do upon his father's farm, in the store and in the lumber-yard. After that he worked a farm on his own account for six years, and in 1872 he located at Colmar Station, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, and engaged in the wholesale and retail flour, feed, coal, hay and phosphate business. Here he conducted the business alone until 1881, when he admitted his brother, Charles R., as a partner. They are doing a large and prosperous

business, having all the facilities of a large and commodious warehouse, with all the necessary railroad facilities. In the early part of 1885 the Rosenberger Brothers extended their business by building a large warehouse, with railroad accommodations, at Doylestown, where they are also engaged in the same kind of trade as at Colmar Station.

Isaac R. was married December 4, 1866, to Miss Harriet, daughter of William and Sarah Bruner, of Chalfont, Bucks Co. His wife was born February 16, 1848. They are the parents of children,—Mary Alice, born April 12, 1868, died September 29, 1881; Harrington,

born October 27, 1869; Flora Estella, born June 4, 1861, died June 20, 1876; Ella Blanche, born March 4, 1873; Charles Grant, born December 4, 1874; William, born September 20, 1878.

William Bruner, father of Mrs. Rosenberger, was a son of Henry Bruner, who for many years lived in Bucks County, near the county line, and was well and favorably known as one of the substantial, honest old farmers of Bucks County. Her maternal grandparents were of the well-known and highly respected Clymer families of Bucks and Berks Counties.

CHAPTER LVIII.

HORSHAM.

HORSHAM is one of the eastern tier of townships, and is bounded on the northeast by Bucks County, northwest by Montgomery, south by Upper Dublin, southeast by Moreland and west by Gwynedd. It is of regular form, five and a half miles in length and three in width, with an area of nine thousand nine hundred and sixty six acres. Its surface is moderately rolling, and the soil in the central and lower sections is a fertile loam, but as it approaches the Montgomery line becomes more of a red shale. It is watered by several branches of the Neshaminy, one of which propels within its limits two grist-mills and a saw-mill. The Pennypack has its source in this township, about two miles west of Horshamville, and propels a grist and saw-mill.

The chief public improvements of Horsham are the Doylestown and Willow Grove turnpike, which passes through its eastern angle nearly three miles; the Whitehall turnpike, four miles; and the Bethlehem turnpike, for a few perches across its extreme western corner. The population in 1800 was 781; in 1840, 1182; and in 1880, 1315, showing a decrease of sixty-seven inhabitants since the census of 1870. The real estate for taxable purposes in 1882 was valued at \$1,348,390, and including the personal, \$1,447,020. The number of taxables is 482, possessing an average of \$3380, and thus in point of wealth ranks the sixth in the county, being surpassed by Springfield, Abington, Cheltenham, Moreland and Whitpain. It contains three public schools, open ten months, with an average attendance of one hundred and five scholars for the school year ending June 1, 1882; in 1856 the average was one hundred and three. For 1883 we find one hotel, three general stores and two dealers in flour and feed licensed. Friends' Meeting-house is the only place of worship. There is a hall for lectures and literary purposes at Horshamville and another at Prospectville. The villages are Horshamville, Prospectville and Davis Grove, each possessing a post-office.

According to Holme's map of original surveys, the first purchasers of land in Horsham were the following, beginning at the Moreland line: Samuel Carpenter, Mary Blunston, Richard Ingels, Thomas Potter, Sarah Fuller and John Barnes. These tracts embraced half the township and extended from the Bucks County line to the Horsham road. The next, following in the same order, whose tracts extended from the southwest side of said road to the Upper Dublin and Gwynedd line, were George Palmer, Joseph Fisher and John Mason. There is no doubt that the whole of the

aforsaid tracts were located here before 1710. As respects dates the map is calculated to deceive, for though it may have been commenced near the close of 1681, yet there is positive evidence from the sale of the tracts that it was filled up even after 1730. The following are given as land-holders and taxables here in 1734: Lady Ann Keith, 800 acres; Thomas Johnson, 200; James Caddy, 100; Richard Shoemaker, 100; Ellis Davis, 200; William Dunbar, 100; John Cadwallader, 150; John Cadwallader, Jr., 150; Richard Thomas, 100; Alexander McQueen, 150; Thomas Palmer, 300; Widow Iredell, 200; Peter Lukens, 75; Evan Lloyd, 250; John Barnes, 229; John Garret, 200; and Widow Parry.

Samuel Carpenter's purchase of five thousand and eighty-eight acres was made from Penn's commissioners of property May 26, 1706, and although a portion extended into Bucks County, yet it may have comprised over one-third of the area of the present township. It had a front on the Horsham road of four miles, or almost to Prospectville. Horshamville, Davis Grove and Græme Park are located on it. The executors of Samuel Carpenter, a distinguished merchant of Philadelphia, sold twelve hundred acres of the same, February 3, 1718, to Andrew Hamilton for five hundred pounds. The latter, March 5, 1718, conveyed the same to William Keith, Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania, and this became the original Græme Park tract. George Palmer's purchase of three hundred acres, through his early death, came in possession of his son, Thomas Palmer, and lay in the corner of the township adjoining Moreland and Upper Dublin and extended up to the present Horshamville. He arrived from England in September, 1682, and, according to tradition, soon thereafter settled on his tract, and it is supposed that he was the first European who made his residence in the township. He here dug a saw-pit, and with a whip-saw cut the lumber with which to build a two-story house, which stood for nearly a century. His descendants state that on his first arrival here he caught shad and herring in the Pennypack Creek, near the present turnpike bridge. In the list of 1776 for Horsham we find the names of John Palmer, two hundred and eighty acres, and Thomas Palmer. Several descendants of the family have here been conveyancers and justices of the peace.

Thomas Iredell came from Horsham, in Sussex, and settled in the present township perhaps as early as 1709, where he purchased two hundred acres, on which he built a house about half a mile north of the meeting-house, and beside the present turnpike. According to the records of Philadelphia Monthly Meeting he was married in that city, in 1705, to Sarah Williams. In 1717 he was one of the overseers of the meeting, and in 1722 one of the jurors in laying out the Governor's road, which passed by his house. He died before 1734, when the property came in possession of his widow. There was preserved an iron

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

door-knocker, from the door of his house, that had drilled on it "T. I. 1720," probably the date of its erection. Tradition states that the township received its name through him, being applied from the place of his nativity. We find that it is both the name of a borough and parish, and where William Penn preached in 1672. The earliest mention yet found of Horsham here is in the meeting records of 30th of Fifth Month, 1717, and it is probable that about this time or a little sooner it was formed into a township, though its population must have been quite sparse, judging by the list of 1734. Robert Iredell, son of Thomas, was born here in 1720, and in the list of 1776 owned here one hundred and fifty-five acres, four horses and four cattle, and had a son, Robert. We find near this date also Charles, Thomas and Abraham Iredell, surveyor, who were probably brothers and sons of the aforesaid Robert Iredell, Sr. Robert Iredell, so long proprietor of the *Norristown Herald*, and at present postmaster there, is a descendant, born here October 15, 1809.

The Kenderdine family was also an early one in Horsham. Thomas Kenderdine came from Wales, and we know, if not a resident, owned land here before 1718. His son, Richard Kenderdine, settled in Chester in 1703, and died in Horsham in April, 1733, aged fifty years, which will account for the name not being on the list of 1734. He is stated to have been a diligent attender of the meetings here from the beginning. In the list of 1776 we find here Joseph Kenderdine, three hundred and ninety acres and a grist-mill; Thomas Kenderdine, one hundred and fifty acres; Benjamin Kenderdine, one hundred and fifty acres; and Joseph Kenderdine. John E. Kenderdine, the noted improver of the Cuttletossa Valley, Bucks Co., was born near Prospectville in 1799, and was the son of Joseph and Ann Kenderdine. After following millwrighting here for several years, he purchased the old mill property, near Lumberton, in 1833, to which he removed, and continued to reside there until his death, in January 1868. He was defeated by only two votes as a candidate for the State Senate in 1843.

The Lukens family of this township, as in Towamencin, has been a noted one. Peter, one of the sons of Jan Luken, the German immigrant, was born at Germantown in 1696, and how soon he settled in Horsham is not exactly known, but it was before 1734, when he is mentioned as residing on a tract here of seventy-five acres. The following year the Horsham road is mentioned as having been laid out from his house up into the centre of Montgomery township. He had a son, Abraham, who is represented as "a gentleman of a philosophic turn of mind," who left here a numerous posterity. In the list of Horsham for 1776 we find rated William Lukens for 293 acres, a saw-mill, and nine children in family; Joseph Lukens, 178 acres; John Lukens, 150 acres; Abraham Lukens, 120 acres; and as single men, Jonathan,

David, Peter and Seneca Lukens. Few families have done more to encourage literature and promote a love for knowledge among the people during the colonial period of Pennsylvania. Peter and John Lukens were among the founders of the Union Library, at Hatboro', in 1755, and furnished to the same no less than eight members prior to 1776. Jonathan, Levi and Samuel L. Lukens were the active promoters and incorporators of Horsham Library in 1808. The saw-mill of William Lukens was erected in 1740, was rebuilt in 1844, and is now owned by James Iredell. John Lukens was a collector of taxes in Horsham in 1742.

John Lukens, the mathematician and philosopher, was the son of Peter, and when a young man served his time with Nicholas Scull as a chain-carrier and practical surveyor. In 1774 he sold his farm a short distance southwest of Horshamville, to William Lukens, at the gate of which, by the road-side, he planted two white-pine trees when a young man, which grew upwards of three feet in diameter and to an extraordinary height. One blew down in a storm about 1850, and the other survived thirty years later. They are yet well remembered by the writer, who could not pass that way without gazing in admiration at their tall and noble trunks, associated as they were with the memories of over a century. We learn from the records that John Lukens was one of the active founders of the Hatboro' Library, July 19, 1755, and November 6, 1756, was elected one of its directors and continued for several years; was authorized by them in 1757 to purchase books to the extent of ten pounds. He was appointed by the American Philosophical Society to assist David Rittenhouse to observe the transit of Venus, in June, 1769, and of Mercury, in November, 1776. On the death of Nicholas Scull, the surveyor-general, he was commissioned, December 8, 1761, to fill the place, and continued in the position until his death, in the fall of 1789,—the long period of almost twenty-eight years, from the colonial period to the establishment of the State government. He was appointed one of the four commissioners to run the boundary line between Pennsylvania and Virginia in 1784-85. Barton, in his "Life of Rittenhouse," calls him "the ingenious astronomical observer, Mr. Lukens." His farm is now owned by Charles Dager, Jr.

Seneca Lukens, who was the grandson of Peter, was a prominent man in the township, and an ingenious clockmaker by profession, who was taxed in 1805 for two hundred and thirty-one acres. It was at his house that the celebrated Mrs. Ferguson made her last home, from near the close of the last century until her death, in February, 1801. His farm was located about half a mile above Horshamville, on the west side of the turnpike, and is now the estate of Chalkley Kenderdine. His will is dated February 8, 1829, and he died in the following fall, appointing his wife, Sarah, and his son Joseph executors. His surviv-

ing children were Isaiah, Moses, Joseph, Rachel, Tabitha and Martha. Isaiah died in 1846, aged sixty-seven years; Moses, 1852, aged seventy-one; Joseph, 1875, aged ninety; Tabitha (widow of John Kirk), 1882, ninety-two, and Martha B. (widow of Samuel Shoemaker), the last of the family, December 2, 1883, in her ninety-second year. All except the first were well-known to the writer, and in talents decidedly above mediocrity, possessing force of character and excellent business qualifications.

Isaiah Lukens, the son of Seneca, was born August 24, 1779, in Horsham, where he received but a common English education, but by subsequent diligent study he acquired a profound knowledge of the sciences. He learned clock-making from his father, and the excellency of the workmanship of his high-standing clocks, spreading far beyond the circle of his neighborhood, formed the basis of his future reputation. He made the clock of Loller Academy, Hatboro', in 1812, and the large clock in the State-House steeple in 1839, for which he received five thousand dollars. In early youth his mechanical skill exhibited itself in constructing wind-mills for pumping water, and air-guns of improved construction, besides other ingenious appliances. While a young man he made a voyage to Europe, spending some time in England, France and Germany, in visiting the greatest objects of interest, particularly those involving a high degree of mechanical knowledge. He finally settled in Philadelphia, and became a member of its several literary and scientific institutions, and was one of the founders and a vice-president of the Franklin Institute. He died in the city November 12, 1864, in age the youngest of the family.

Alexander McQueen, on the list of 1734 for one hundred and fifty acres, we find is represented in 1776 by Seth McQueen, who had now become the owner of the tract. Richard Shoemaker, with one hundred acres in 1734, was still living in 1776, and is mentioned as "aged;" John Cadwallader, one hundred and fifty acres, and John Cadwallader, Jr., one hundred and fifty; in 1776 two of the names are again mentioned, one with one hundred and seventy-five acres and the other sixty, and Benjamin Cadwallader, fifty acres. John Barnes, two hundred and twenty-nine acres in 1734; in 1776 the name is still here, with one hundred and fifty acres, one negro, four horses and five cattle; besides, as single men, John and Earl Barnes. John Barnes was one of the jurors in laying out the Governor's road in 1722, and advertised in 1750 his farm of one hundred and forty acres, in Horsham, with buildings, sixty acres cleared and two orchards. He was probably a son or relation of John Barnes, the early settler near Abington Meeting-house, who was a man of note. Of the Jarrett family we do not remember having seen any account whatever. In the Germantown Court records mention is made in 1703 of Jacob Gerrets, which is reason for believing this family to be of German origin. John Garret is thus

called in the list of 1734 as owning two hundred acres. He was one of the founders of the Hatboro' Library in 1755 and a director from 1761 to 1764. In 1776, William Jarrett was rated in Horsham for one hundred and seventy-six acres; Jonathan Jarrett, one hundred; and William Jarrett, in 1805, two hundred and thirty-seven acres. William Penrose, of Græme Park, married Hannah, daughter of the latter, in 1810. William Dunbar is in the list of 1734 for one hundred acres, and in 1776, Andrew Dunbar ninety acres. We have thought probably that this may be the present Dunn family, who have been land-holders in the township for some time; yet this name is not so found in early records.

Evan Lloyd came from Wales and purchased, in 1719, two hundred and fifty acres half a mile north-east of the meeting-house. He was a minister among Friends, and we find that he was still living here after 1734. He had a son John, who settled on an adjoining farm, and who, in 1776, was rated for one hundred and fourteen acres, and his brother, Hugh Lloyd, sixty acres. The latter, in 1777, married Christianna, daughter of Enoch Morgan. He had three children,—David, Enoch and Miriam. Of David Lloyd, who was born in 1778, the writer prepared a biographical sketch published in the *Bucks County Intelligencer* February 3, 1862, and also in the *Norristown Register*. Like his father and grandfather, he was brought up a farmer and received in his youth but an ordinary education. Possessing a studious disposition, he became, in the course of time, a man of intellectual ability. Though brought up a Friend, he differed from some of their principles. In the late war with England he joined the rifle company of Captain McClean, and drew for his services several bounties in public lands. As respects the Sabbath, he maintained the doctrines of the Seventh-day Baptists. In whatever related to education or the dissemination of knowledge in his neighborhood he took an active part. Our earliest personal knowledge commenced in 1848, while attending the Hatboro' Lyceum, at Loller Academy, and the Horsham Debating Society. His first literary attempts were probably published in the *Norristown Register* in 1827. For the *Germantown Telegraph* he wrote a series of articles, chiefly on agriculture. These were collected in 1832 in a small volume of one hundred and twenty pages, entitled "Economy of Agriculture." In 1845 he had published "The Gentleman's Pocket-Piece: being a Repository of Choice Selections and Golden Precepts taken from the best of Authors," contained within the compass of one hundred and fifty-six pages. He still continued to contribute, during his times of leisure, to the periodical publications of the day, among which may be mentioned the *Norristown Herald and Free Press*. He collected these various effusions and had them published, in 1848, in an octavo volume of two hundred and sixteen pages, under the title of "The Modern Miscellany," which contains the

greater portion as well as the best of his writings. In his eightieth year his mind became impaired, which no doubt helped to bring on his financial embarrassments, when his personal property was sold by the sheriff in the beginning of 1860, and in the month of April his real estate. On the following 29th of July he died, aged eighty-three years, lacking one day, completely enfeebled in body and mind, the last survivor of his father's family.

Tunis Conderts arrived in October, 1683, with the German Friends who shortly afterwards founded Germantown, where he died in 1729. At his house William Penn preached before the meeting-house was built. His family consisted of his wife, Ellen, and four sons and three daughters. Three of the sons—Conrad, Mathias and John,—were born in Germany, and, with their father, were naturalized in 1709. John Conard, as it is now called, settled in Horsham, but at what time we have not ascertained. In the list of 1776 we find John Conard rated for one hundred and twenty acres; Dennis Conard, ninety acres; and Dennis Conard, Jr., a single man. The two preceding, no doubt, are the sons of John Conard, who first settled here. Descendants still exist in this section, and the family is now numerous in Montgomery County.

Archibald McClean was for sixteen years a justice of the peace in Horsham, and in 1772 was elected to the Assembly. He died December 1, 1773, in his seventy-fifth year, having resided in the same place for forty years. He was buried in the graveyard attached to Abington Presbyterian Church. On the list of 1776 we find his estate rated at 220 acres; William McClean, 220 acres; Mary McClean, 45 acres; and Robert Loller, 15 acres. The latter was his son-in-law and also a colonel in the Revolutionary army, of whom a sketch will be given in the account of Hatboro'. Dr. Archibald McClean, a distinguished physician, was a son of the aforesaid, educated at Princeton College, surgeon in the Revolutionary army, and in January, 1783, was appointed surgeon of the First Battalion of Philadelphia County militia. This year he also became a member of the Hatboro' Library. He was a noted wit, a poet and a man of extensive acquirements, and possessed a very large medical practice. It is said he was six feet six inches in height, a lover of strong drink and a free thinker. For these reasons Mrs. Ferguson wrote a poem, entitled his "Epitaph," which she sent him, signed "Anonymous," for which he retaliated, as is noticed elsewhere. In attempting to cross the Wissahickon in a high freshet at the present town of Ambler, on horseback, he was drowned, May 13, 1791, leaving a widow and four children. He resided near the centre of the township, adjoining his father's place. His writings and family record were accidentally destroyed by a fire about eighteen years ago. Descendants of the family still reside in the vicinity.

In the list of 1776 we find rated Benjamin Holt, one hundred and two acres and eight children, and

Mordecai Holt, one hundred and ten acres. The latter was collector of taxes in 1781, and became the owner of the old Iredell homestead, situated on the east side of the turnpike, above the meeting-house. He had an only child, Nathan Holt, who inherited the estate and retained it during his lifetime. He died in 1848, in his eighty-fourth year, and donated by his will nearly all his property to the Hatboro' Library Company. He was a member of that library fifty-seven years, and stated, not long before his death, that for most of his knowledge he was indebted to this institution. The amount realized was five thousand eight hundred dollars, whereof three thousand eight hundred dollars was applied to the erection of a new building, completed in 1849, and the balance invested and the income used in the purchase of books.

The earliest public highway that extended into Horsham, most probably, was the Welsh road, which was laid out in 1712 from the "Ford" over Pennypack, at the present Huntingdon Valley, along the whole southwest line of the township, and separating it from Upper Dublin and Gwynedd. In 1731 complaint was made to the court by the inhabitants of Upper Dublin that the Horsham overseers did not keep their part of said road in proper order, when a division of the same was made, and the respective townships required to attend to it in the future. The road from Græme Park by way of Horsham Meeting-house to the York road, at Willow Grove, was opened in 1722, and also the same year from the former place down the county line, to Hatboro'. As these were laid out from Governor Keith's settlement, the former was long known as the "Governor's road." The road from the present Spring House to Horsham Meeting-house was laid out and confirmed in 1723. The Horsham road extends through the centre of the township; was laid out from near the meeting-house up into Montgomery township in the spring of 1735. The Butler road, which extends in a northern direction across Horsham, must have been opened near the aforesaid date, having received this name from leading to Simon Butler's mill, on the northwest branch of the Neshaminy, in New Britain township, near the present Whitehallville. Butler was quite a prominent man; appointed justice of the peace in 1738, and continued therein for over twenty years. The County Line road, from Græme Park to the present Line Lexington, was opened in 1752. The supervisors of roads in 1767 were Daniel Jones and Abraham Lukens; in 1773, Robert Iredell and Samuel Conan; in 1785, Abraham Lukens and William Miller; in 1810, Joseph Kenderdine and Joseph Parry. James Craven, was constable in 1774.

Horsham, or better known as Horshamville, on the Doylestown and Willow Grove turnpike, is in the midst of a fine agricultural district, contains about twenty houses, a Friends' Meeting-house, two school-houses, a store and several mechanic shops. The post-office was established here before 1816, when Charles

Palmer was postmaster. In January, 1826, Charles Jarrett was appointed, and its name changed from Horsham Meeting-house to Horsham. This is an old settlement, the meeting house having been commenced in 1722, if not earlier. The Pennypack flows near by into which empty several streams of water that have their sources near by. A hall was built in 1855 in which literary exercises and lectures are held. A library was founded here in 1799 and incorporated in 1808, having in 1853 thirty-two members. Owing to a lack of interest, in 1874 its remaining nine hundred volumes were sold, and thus became scattered in a day the accumulation of three-quarters of a century.

Prospectville, situated at the intersection of the Whitehall turnpike and Horsham road, contains eight houses, a store, hall and several mechanics. The post-office was established before 1858. Here, in 1779, Thomas Roney kept an inn, succeeded by David Caldwell in 1785. This place formerly bore the name of Cashtown. Davis Grove is within half a mile of the Bucks County line, and about that distance from Græme Park. It contains four or five houses, a store and blacksmith-shop. Mary Ball kept an inn here in 1790, sign of the "Yellow Ball," succeeded afterwards by Wm. Yerkes, about 1800, followed by Jesse Kirk before 1807, and, on the death of the latter, by his son, Jacob Kirk, who discontinued it about 1850. The elections in 1824 were required to be held at Hatboro', but several years after were removed to this place. A hamlet of four or five houses, school-house and a smith-shop, in the centre of the township, on the Horsham road, has for a long time borne the dignified name of Babylon.

The people of this agricultural township have long been noted for their intelligence and generous social qualities, and hence we do not wonder at the number of noted persons who have either been born or resided within its limits, particularly when we come to regard its small population, barely exceeding thirteen hundred. Here have been the homes of such literary or distinguished characters as Sir William Keith, Dr. Thomas Græme, Mrs. Elizabeth Ferguson, John and Anna Young, Dr. Archibald McClean, Robert Loller, David and Joseph Lloyd, Samuel and John Gummere, John, Abraham and Isaiah Lukens, Hiram McNeal and others that could be mentioned. Here, too, lived for several generations the Simpson family, a daughter of whom became the mother of General Ulysses S. Grant. Græme Park, so rich in memories of the colonial period, will form a subject of sufficient interest to be treated by itself.

The Simpson Family.—We are not at present prepared to give the earliest history of this family, but it is known from records that before the Revolution Samuel Simpson resided in Abington township, the owner of a farm of one hundred and eighty-eight acres, and a few years later there was Benjamin Simpson, who probably was his son. John Simpson, the great-grandfather of General Grant, was a collector of taxes

in Horsham in 1776, and we find him rated for this year as holding one hundred and fifty acres, four horses, four cattle and fourteen sheep, taxed £14. 14s. For several reasons we are inclined to believe that the latter was the son of Samuel Simpson, of Abington, and probably the first ancestor of the family in this country. It has been stated that this family is of Scotch-Irish origin, about which we have doubts. The name is found in Friends' records, and there was a minister of Abington Meeting in the last century of the name of James Simpson. A close examination has been made of the numerous tombstones in the graveyard of Abington Presbyterian Church, and none have been discovered there bearing the name.

The aforesaid John Simpson, as we learn, purchased his property in Horsham at sheriff's sale November 30, 1763, which really contained one hundred and sixty-four acres, situated in the extreme northern corner of the township, adjoining Montgomery and extending to the Bucks County line. It is presumed that he must have moved on it soon after the purchase. He is stated to have had at least three children,—a son John and two daughters. Respecting the latter, we possess no information. He must have been a man of some note to possess this property, and likewise of responsibility to be invested with the powers and duties of a collector of the revenue, and that, too, in the most memorable year of the Revolution. It is stated he died near the beginning of this century, when his son became the owner of the homestead, whereon he was born in 1767. He is said to have married Rebecca Wier, a daughter of a substantial farmer in Warrington, or New Britain. He was probably married in 1793, for his eldest daughter, Mary was born in 1795, and Hannah, the mother of General Grant, in November, 1797. His son Samuel was still living, at a very advanced age, in the spring of 1883, near Bantam, Ohio. John Simpson, Jr., continued to reside in Horsham until his children were grown up, when, with the idea of going westward, he sold his farm, in the fall of 1817, to John Meyers, and in the following year moved with his family on a farm he had previously purchased near Bethel, Clermont Co., Ohio. All the school education that he or his children had received was obtained near by, at the stone school-house on the county line. He died August 20, 1837, in his seventieth year. His daughter Mary had married James Griffith in 1818. Hannah was married, June 24, 1820, to Jesse Root Grant, who was a son of Noah Grant, and also a Pennsylvanian, born in Westmoreland County January 23, 1794.

To Dr. Jackson, of Pittsburgh, we are indebted for an interesting relation made to him by Jesse R. Grant, in 1867, on the subject of his marriage into the Simpson family, which refutes several errors that have been current on the subject,—

"In 1820" (he states) "I settled temporarily at a small place called Point Pleasant, situated on the Ohio river, twenty-five miles above Cincinnati, and in June, 1820, I was married to Miss Hannah Simpson, and

commenced house-keeping at that place. Mrs. Grant was an unpretending country-girl—handsome but not vain. She had previously joined the Methodist Church, and I can truthfully say that it has never had a more devoted and consistent member. Her steadiness, firmness and strength of character have been the stay of the family through life. She was always careful and most watchful over her children, but not austere, and not opposed to their free participation in innocent amusement. At Point Pleasant, on the 27th of April, 1822, our first child, Ulysses S. Grant, was born. The house in which this event occurred, is still standing. Five other children, three daughters and two sons, were subsequently added to our family. Mrs. Grant was the second daughter of Mr. John Simpson, of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. She was born and brought up in that county, about twenty miles from Philadelphia. When in her nineteenth year, she moved with her father to Clermont County, Ohio. The family were highly respectable—people of veracity and integrity, but not of any particular ambition beyond that of independent farmers. Mrs. Grant's father was worth some property, but it was all in land, and which he kept until he died. It was nearly three years after their removal to Clermont that we were married. A few of the neighbors expressed their surprise that one of Mr. Simpson's daughters should marry a young man hardly yet established in business. But this did me no harm, and as soon as it was seen how I was getting along I heard no more of it."

The children of Jesse R. Grant were Ulysses Simpson, Samuel Simpson, Orville L., Rachel, Virginia Payne and Mary Frances. The father died June 27, 1873, and Mrs. Grant at New York, May 11, 1882, aged eighty-four years and six months. Mary, the eldest sister, was still living in the spring of 1883, in her eighty-seventh year, which shows remarkable longevity in the family. It is stated that Samuel Medary, late Governor of Ohio, was brought up in the vicinity of Horsham and was a schoolmate of John Simpson's children, and an intimacy was thus early formed that had much to do with his rise to future eminence. As a young man he went West in 1825, and through their former acquaintance in Montgomery County, was induced to make his home with Mr. Simpson, who, through his influence, secured him a school in the neighborhood, where he taught all of three years, which enabled him, with economy, to start a newspaper called the *Clermont Sun*, which advanced him onwards until he was elected, in 1856, chief executive of his adopted State.

Nearly forty years ago the writer was acquainted with several Simpsons residing in Moreland township and vicinity. They bore a close resemblance to General Grant, and were of the same physical organization, and therefore, without doubt, were members of the same family. The old homestead in Horsham has long since become divided into several farms. John Duddy owns the portion on the east of the turnpike, on which the buildings stood. From what has been ascertained, John Simpson, Jr., was highly respected by his neighbors in Ohio and regarded as a man of intelligence. Here are materials in a brief family sketch that seem to border on romance.

Friends' Meeting-House in Horsham.—Respecting this early meeting we have seen no account beyond that given in the "History of Montgomery County," as published in Scott's Atlas in 1877. Having secured additional matter, it was made the subject of an article in "The Local Historian," published in the spring of 1882. With a few more facts we now en-

ter on a third concise attempt. The earliest mention whatever that we could find of Horsham is in a minute of Abington Monthly Meeting under the date of 30th of Fifth Month, 1717, which states that "It is agreed that there be two overseers chosen for Horsham Meeting, viz.: John Michener and Thomas Iredell." Samuel Smith states, in his "History of the Province," that it was established the 24th of Seventh Month, 1716, "at first only in the winter season." Respecting these overseers, the former settled in Moreland, nearly four miles distant, in the spring of 1715, and the latter about half a mile north of the meeting-house.

Hannah Carpenter, the widow of Samuel Carpenter, by a deed of trust, conveyed to John Cadwallader, Thomas Iredell, Evan Lloyd and Richard Kenderdine, the 27th of Third Month, 1719, for the use of Friends, fifty acres of land from his great tract, on which the meeting-house was built, most probably in 1721, for we know from the jurors' report on the laying out of the Governor's road along here, April 23, 1722, that it was located by the Meeting-House. John Fothergill, of England, mentions in his journal attending this meeting, 17th of Eleventh Month, 1721–22, in company with Lawrence King. We next find in the monthly records that the members had made application the 28th of Seventh Month, 1724, "for some assistance towards ye finishing of their new Meeting-House; ye meeting, having taken it into consideration, order that the four meetings shall assist those friends in Horsham." By this is meant the members composing the Monthly Meeting, comprising Abington, established 1697; Germantown, 1704; Byberry, 1715; and of Horsham. We thus perceive that as small or humble as this structure may have been, some three or four years must have elapsed before it was fully completed. We believe it was of stone and stood until 1803, when it was demolished, and the present substantial and commodious two-story structure occupies its place.

For her donation Hannah Carpenter deserves some mention. She was born in Haverford West, in South Wales, her family-name being Hardiman, and was married to Samuel Carpenter, in Philadelphia, the 12th of Tenth Month, 1684. Like her husband, she was highly esteemed for her well-directed efforts in benevolence. She died on the 24th of Fifth Month, 1728, in her eighty-third year. Samuel Carpenter, had, in 1711, executed a deed of trust for a lot of ground for a meeting-house, burying-ground and pasture to Friends in Bristol, Bucks Co., on which was erected a house for worship in 1713, only a year previous to his death. Toward the close of his life we regret to state this worthy, enterprising man experienced financial embarrassment, thus rendering the gift the more noble or self-sacrificing on the part of his widow.

Evan Lloyd was one of the first ministers of this congregation, of which also John Cadwallader was

an elder. In 1782 it had become so strong that the Quarterly Meeting formed it into a Monthly Meeting, to be called Horsham, to which Byberry was attached. How long this organization continued we are unable to say, but probably into the beginning of this century or until the formation of the latter into a Monthly Meeting, when Horsham was again attached to Abington. From an advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* in the beginning of 1753 we learn that the Friends' school-house was then built, for which, as the committee, John Lukens, surveyor, Abraham Lukens and Benjamin Cadwallader, "living near the Meeting-House in Horsham township," desired the services of a teacher,—very probably, the present stone school-house, in which Isaac Comly, of Byberry, the author and editor, also taught in 1799.

The ancient graveyard here is an object of interest, and since 1719, no doubt, fully two thousand have been interred here. To meet the increasing demand for space, it has been enlarged again and again. It now comprises several acres, and on the roadside is inclosed by a substantial stone wall, recently repaired. In examining this ground at leisure, we find here many tombstones bearing the time-honored names of Spencer, Walton, Hallowell, Palmer, Jarrett, Lukens, Longstreth, Kirk, Paul, Cadwallader, Thomas, Iredell, Comly, Lloyd, Wood, Parry, Jones, Kenderdine, Michener, Shoemaker and others. We propose to give a short list of names, copied therefrom, which may prove of interest to some of their surviving kindred or friends residing beyond the neighborhood. For brevity the months and days are omitted: William Penrose, 1863, aged 81 years; Jane S. Homer, 1864, 33; Nicholas Kohl, 1866, 76, and wife, Martha, 1873, 76; Moses Lukens, 1852, 71; Martha Paul, of Willow Grove, 1857, 90; John Walker, 1872, 81; Jesse Homer, 1850, 20; Jacob Leidy, 1850, 28; Charles Hallowell, 1858, 78; T. Elwood Comly, 1863, 38; John Iredell, 1869, 69; Jacob Walton, 1875, 76; Samuel Shoemaker, 1845, 52; Thomas Iredell, 1865, 63; Isaac Warner, 1877, 89, and his wife, Elizabeth, 1877, 94; Daniel Lloyd, 1875, 64; Daniel Longstreth, 1846, 45; Joseph S. Lukens, 1875, 90; Gove Mitchell, no date, 74; and Robert Roberts, no date, 79. With all of these we had a personal acquaintance, which alone induced us at the time to transcribe them.

One grand object here cannot fail to arrest attention,—we mean its noble sassafras-tree, that, out of curiosity, was measured in 1852, and was found to be, at sixteen inches from the surface of the ground, thirteen feet in circumference and carrying, with little diminution, the same width on the trunk for ten or twelve feet. Though thirty-two years have since elapsed, it has probably grown but little. It appears now to be on the decline. At a distance it presents the appearance of a majestic and venerable chestnut-tree. It may, perhaps, be the largest of its kind in the country.

This meeting-house, as is usual with Friends, is

surrounded by noble shade-trees, particularly button-wood and oak, some of the latter undoubtedly remnants of the ancient forest. Here, too, on nearly all sides, are extensive sheds for the protection of horses from the inclemency of the weather in all seasons. It is calculated to do one good at the close of the quiet Friends' worship, as we have more than once experienced here, to enter into a general hand-shaking, as is the custom, thus renewing friendship and reviving recollection.

HORSHAM TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT FOR 1776.

Robert Iredell, assessor, and John Simpson, collector.

Andrew Dunbar, 90 acres, 2 horses and 4 cattle; Isaac Parry, 64 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Charles Iredell, 1 h., 1 c.; Edward Walker, 1 h., 1 c.; Benjamin Kenderdine, 150 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Jabez White, 100 a., 3 h., 4 c.; John Woolman, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c.; William Dean, 50 a., 3 h., 1 c.; Jacob Brown, 2 h., 1 c.; Thomas Roney; Jacob Needler; William Jarrett, 176 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 7 c.; Mary McClean, 45 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Hercules Roney, 5 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Samuel Murray, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Hugh Lloyd, 60 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Lloyd, 114 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Henry Stewart, 35 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jonathan Jarrett, 100 a.; Dennis Conard, 90 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Joseph Miller, 2 h., 4 c.; Benjamin Holt, 102 a., 2 h., 2 c., 8 children; Mordecai Holt, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Benjamin Cadwallader, 50 a., 2 h., 1 c.; John Cadwallader, 175 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Cadwallader, aged, 60 a., 1 h., 1 c.; William Lukens, 293 a., 5 h., 9 c., saw-mill, 9 children; Job Lancaster, 18 a., mill, 1 c.; Thomas Barnes, 50 a., 2 h., 4 c., 5 children; John Palmer, 280 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Thomas Palmer, 1 c.; Leonard Stemple, 2 h., 2 c.; John Hallowell, 80 a., 1 h., 1 c.; John Lukens, 150 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Samuel McNair, 200 a., 4 h., 4 c.; James Craven, 100 a., 3 h., 5 c.; John Mann, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Conard, 140 a., 1 servant, 2 h., 4 c.; David Marple, 55 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Shoub, 73 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Marple, 45 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Thomas Hallowell, 109 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Seth Quee, 150 a., 4 h., 4 c.; John Barnes, 150 a., 1 negro, 4 h., 5 c.; Atkinson Hughs, 150 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Jacob Needler, 50 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Enoch Armitage, 30 a., 2 h., 3 c.; George Snap, 36 a., 1 h.; Edward Bright, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Samuel Dehaven, 150 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Charles Revecomb, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Robert Edwards, 76 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Adams, 125 a., 3 h., 5 c.; John Kastner, 2 h., 1 c.; John Nailor, 2 h., 3 c.; Joseph Ships, 2 h., 4 c.; Charles Mullen, 100 a., 3 h., 5 c.; John Williams, 190 a., 4 h., 7 c.; Benjamin White 1 c.; John Wilson, 74 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Benjamin Sutch, 60 a.; William Davison, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Samuel Conard, 150 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Carver, 1 c.; George Sutch, 1 h., 1 c.; Thomas Davis, 140 a., 1 negro, 3 h., 8 c.; Robert Loller, 1 h., 2 c.; William McClean, 220 a., 4 h., 3 c.; Archibald McClean, 220 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Thomas Kenderdine, 150 a., 5 h., 6 c., $\frac{1}{2}$ a grist-mill; Joseph Kenderdine, 390 a., 4 h., 6 c., $\frac{1}{2}$ a grist-mill; William Mullen, 2 h., 5 c.; Cadwallader Ervin; John Nash, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Paul Dowling, 200 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Jacob Wright, 160 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Joseph Slaughter, 8 children, 2 h., 2 c.; John Simpson, 150 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Philip Summers, 150 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Daniel Jones, 200 a., estate; Samuel Jones, 150 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Hugh Ferguson, 800 a., 6 h., 6 c., 1 negro; Jesse Murray, 75 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Abraham Lukens, 120 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Joseph Lukens, 178 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Joseph Gilbert; Robert Iredell, 155 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Richard Shoemaker, aged. *Single Men.*—Robert Armstrong, Lewis Woolman, Michael Denison, Peter Lukens, Dennis Conard, Jr., Jonathan Lukens, David Lukens, Thomas Barnes, William Stemple, John Stemple, Earl Barnes, John Barnes, Israel Mullen, Mathias Heise, David Davis, Joseph Kenderdine, Dominic Shallada, William Jamison, John Andrews, Samuel Collet, Malcolm Mosler, Seneca Lukens, James Stephens, Robert Iredell.

Græme Park.—Few places in Pennsylvania surpass Græme Park in interesting historical associations. The old mansion-house of Sir William Keith is still standing there, a relic of early colonial days, around which cluster the events of considerably more than a century and a half. It is situated near the Bucks County line, nearly a mile northwest of the Doylestown and Willow Grove turnpike, and nineteen miles from Philadelphia.

By a patent from Penn's commissioners of property, dated May 26, 1706, a tract of land containing five thousand and eighty-eight acres was conveyed to Samuel Carpenter, a distinguished merchant of Philadelphia, which lay chiefly in the present township of Horsham, a small portion only extending over the Bucks County line into Warrington. After Mr. Carpenter's death his executors sold from off this tract to Andrew Hamilton, February 3, 1718, twelve hundred acres. The latter sold it to William Keith, Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania, the following 5th of March, for the same sum of five hundred pounds. Its bounds are thus set forth:

"Beginning at corner Black oak marked 'S. C.' in Joseph Fisher's line; from thence by the said Fisher's land southeast 408 perches to a cornerpost of Thomas Kenderdine's land; from thence extending north-east by the said Kenderdine's land and other land of Samuel Carpenter, deceased, 474 perches to another corner post standing in William Fishbourne's line; thence northwest in the line dividing the counties of Philadelphia and Bucks by the said Fishbourne's land and other land late of the said Samuel Carpenter, 408 perches to a corner White oak, marked 'S. C.'; from thence southwest 474 perches to the place of beginning, containing 1200 acres, to the only proper use and behoof of the said William Keith, his heirs and assigns for ever under the proportionate part of the yearly Quit-Rent hereafter accruing for the hereby granted premises."

It is evident that this early purchase must have been an entire forest, without any improvements whatever, and with no public highway nearer than the old York Road, which had been laid out from Philadelphia to the river Delaware in the fall of 1711. At the latest, the Governor must have commenced his improvements here in the summer of 1721, for we know that on the following December 12th he entered into a contract with John Kirk, mason, for the mansion, which is still standing. The next we know is that the "Hon. Sir William Keith, Bart., Governor," acquainted his Council, consisting of Richard Hall, Isaac Norris, Samuel Preston, Anthony Palmer, Thomas Masters, Henry Brook, Andrew Hamilton, attorney-general, and James Logan, secretary, on March 25, 1722,

"That he has made a considerable advancement in the erecting of a building at Horsham, in the County of Philadelphia, in order to carry on the manufacture of grain, etc., and that it is necessary some convenient roads and highways through the woods, to and from the said settlement, be laid out by order of this board.

"It is therefore, at the Governor's request, ordered that Robert Fletcher, Richard Carver, Thomas Iredell, John Barnes and Ellis Davis, or any four of them, do run out and make return of a convenient public road and highway from the Governor's settlement at Horsham to the Meeting-House there, and from thence to a small Bridge, commonly called Round Meadow Run, where it meets again with the Abington or New York road. And also, that the same persons do run out and make return of a road and highway, to begin at the intersection of the said New York road at the Division Line between the counties of Philadelphia and Bucks, to be continued upon the said Line upwards as far as they shall judge convenient or necessary for accommodating that neighborhood; and it is ordered that the returns of the said Roads be made in thirty days after this date."

On April 23d following the road was laid out by the aforesaid jurors by way of the meeting-house to its termination, at the present Willow Grove. From Nicholas Scull's report, as surveyor, we learn

that from "the Governor's new Building" to the meeting-house was eight hundred and seventy-five perches, and from thence eight hundred and five perches to "Round Meadow Run,"—making the total distance five and a quarter miles. The next day the road was laid out on the county line from the York Road northwest twelve hundred and seventy-four perches, or four miles, "to a Black Oak tree standing by a path leading from Richard Sanders' Ferry, on Neshaminy Creek, to Edward Farmer's mill." From the distance, it must have passed a little beyond the Governor's place. The drawing of a direct line from the mill by this termination establishes the interesting fact that Richard Sanders' ferry on Neshaminy Creek was at the present Bridge Point, nearly six miles distant. The road from here was extended northwards April 23, 1723, to the south corner of John Dyer's land, about a mile above Doylestown, and thus from there, by the Governor's place, was now a continuous road from Philadelphia in this direction for twenty-six miles, showing that settlements were rapidly extending northwards.

A question arises as to what did the Governor mean by carrying on here "the manufacture of Grain." At first we supposed a grist-mill for making flour was meant, of which the branch of the Neshaminy flowing near by would have been large enough to furnish the power, but no evidence exists of anything of the kind being erected here for the purpose. Among the Governor's effects enumerated here in May, 1726, we find mention made of a large copper still, two smaller stills and "a large quantity of wooden vessels for distilling and brewing." It is known that he had a brew-house here, which was a common thing at this period with those whose circumstances could afford it, when but little tea or coffee was consumed. William Penn had his brew-house at Pennsbury, and James Logan at Stenton, beer as well as cider serving as a substitute for our present table drinks.

The Governor no doubt at first made this his summer residence, but when he was deprived of the office he made it his home altogether until his final departure for England. It had become apparent to the Assembly in the fall of 1725, chiefly through the instigation of James Logan, that the Governor had incurred the displeasure of the proprietary family, and was likely to be removed for passing the act emitting a paper currency. As a result, that body sent an address to the latter in England, dated December 7, 1725, vindicating the policy of his government. In June, 1726, his successor, Patrick Gordon, arrived, and on the 22d of said month entered upon the duties of the office. Thus closed his administration of the chief executive powers, after holding the office for nine years. No doubt, in anticipation of this result and the payment of his debts, he sold, in the previous spring, all his personal effects here to Dr. Thomas Græme and Thomas Sober, merchant, both

of Philadelphia, for the sum of five hundred pounds. Having become a member of the Assembly April 25, 1728, he sent in his resignation to that body, who excused his absence, "being called to Great Britain on affairs of importance."

Before Sir William's departure he left his wife, Lady Ann Keith, in possession of the Horsham estate by virtue of a power of attorney, enabling her to receive and apply all the rents and emoluments arising therefrom to her sole use and support. Finding it, however, inadequate for one of her condition, she applied to her husband to have the whole vested in her right, that she might thus sell it for the payment of her debts and the overplus to remain for her future support. In consequence he executed a deed of trust at Westminster, London, dated April 20, 1731, to his eldest son, Alexander Henry Keith, and three other gentlemen, in conjunction with his wife, in which he conferred his whole right and title to the said plantation for the sole use and benefit of the latter, her heirs and assigns forever; which was accepted before the mayor of Philadelphia, on the part of Lady Keith, July 20, 1731, and duly recorded.

After several unsuccessful efforts to sell the place, it was put up at public sale at the "Coffee-House," in Philadelphia, August 12, 1737, and purchased by Joseph Turner, a merchant there, for the sum of seven hundred and fifty pounds, it comprising eight hundred and forty-eight acres. A draft had been previously prepared by Jacob Parsons, afterwards surveyor-general, of which a copy from the original was made in 1857. The bounds of this tract were thus set forth,—

"Beginning at a marked Black Oak on the line dividing the Counties of Philadelphia and Bucks, at a corner of John Jarrett's land; thence extending, by the same, southwest 192 perches to a stone; thence by a line of marked trees northwest 220 perches to a post, southwest 36 perches to a large White Oak, northwest 72 perches to a post, southwest 90 perches to a stone, northwest 61 perches to a post or stone; thence by land lately owned by Richard Shoemaker north 58 degrees east 55 perches to a post, northwest 129 perches to a stone and southwest 195 perches to a stone; thence along lines of marked trees northwest 60 perches to a stone and northeast 460 perches to a marked hickory in the county line aforesaid; thence along the same line southeast 528 perches to the place of beginning."

In the *American Weekly Mercury* of September 15, 1737, is found an interesting advertisement giving a very good description of the place, with the improvements thereon as made by the Governor. The amount of cleared land does not appear great when we come to consider that it had been occupied some fifteen years, but the labor necessarily involved to effect even this must have been something.

"To be let to farm in Philadelphia County, twenty miles from town, a Plantation called Horsham, consisting of 500 acres of land, 75 of which are cleared and improved ready and fit for full grain; besides 12 acres of well-improved meadow. Together with a large stone House, three stories high, 60 feet in length, and 35 wide, each story well floored and lighted, originally designed for a Malt-House, but at present seems better calculated for a Company of Linen-Weavers, having a large stream of water passing by the end of said House, and a fine spring running by the back part thereof, whereon is a very good bleaching green, which renders the whole extremely commodious for a Linen-Factory. For further

information, inquire of the Printer hereof, or of Thomas Darroch, tenant on another part of the said Plantation."

The whole of the tract, with all its improvements, was conveyed by Mr. Turner to Dr. Thomas Græme, for the sum of seven hundred and sixty pounds, December 22, 1739. This gentleman, then a distinguished physician of Philadelphia, was a son-in-law of Lady Ann Keith, and had been appointed one of her attorneys before her husband's departure. On account of his having purchased the Governor's personal property in 1726, and to escape from the heat of the city, he was induced to spend his summers here with his family and Lady Keith. Thus his attachments became formed to the place, of which he had now become the sole owner, and which he was to retain for one-third of a century, or to the end of the life he was to close here at an advanced age. He commenced greatly improving this extensive estate, with a view of rendering it much more attractive as a place of retirement to himself and family in his summer sojournings, and to be in consequence known thenceforth as "Græme Park."

In a letter to Thomas Penn, one of the proprietaries in England, and son of William Penn, dated July 1, 1755, he thus speaks of the place,—

"You are pleased to compliment me about Horsham, which, as you observe, I have endeavored to make a fine plantation in regard to fields and meadows and enclosures, not much yet regarding the house and gardens. I have a park which encloses three hundred acres of land, which is managed in a manner quite different from any I have seen here or elsewhere. It is very good soil and one-half lies with an easy descent to the south, besides avenues and vistas through it; there is now just done about one hundred and fifty acres of it quite clear of shrubs and bushes, only the tall trees and good young sappling timber standing. This I harrow, sow it in grass seed, then brush and roll it. I expect it soon capable of maintaining a large stock of sheep and black cattle; it would be one of the finest Parks for Deer that could well be imagined. I have double-ditched and double-hedged it in, and as a piece of beauty and ornament to a dwelling, I dare venture to say that no nobleman in England but would be proud to have it on his seat. It is true it has afforded me a good deal of pleasure. The charges have been considerable and the returns but small, though I think cannot fail answering the purpose. I am greatly pleased to find my brother Peter interested with your correspondence and sends his greatest personal regard and best good wishes."

Miss Eliza Stedman, on her coming out here with the family to spend the summer, appears to have been highly delighted with this retreat, judging from the following extract of a letter to Elizabeth Græme (afterwards Mrs. Ferguson), then in England, dated

"Græme Park, May 17, 1765. My beloved friend will see by the above that I am now in a most agreeable retirement, my mind disengaged from the trifling gaieties which claim the attention in the city. Here I am surrounded with tranquility, nothing to disturb that happy composure with which the infancy of Spring is attended. All is gay and blooming, Nature seems to rejoice, each field and grove is dressed in rich attire to delight the eye. The little feathered tribes praise their Creator for returning good in harmonious anthems, the bleating flocks, emblem of innocence, wait the hand of covetous man to deprive them of their warm robes. Reading and walking, by turns, employ my time, and when in one of my solitary rambles through the Park or the little grove by the milk-house, I recollect the many charming hours we have passed together there in innocent chat, I am so lost as to still fancy you are with me, till I go to address my companion, whom I cannot find."

Dr. Græme died in the fall of 1772, having outlived nearly all his numerous descendants. By his

W L R H

Philadelphia May 18th 1720

Ann Keith 1737 & Hugh Ferguson

Keith 1737

Chas. Stedman

Tho: Greene

Phila^{del} July 6 1754

Jacob Duché

Your affectionate Mother. 1754
A Greene

Jas Young

Eliza Greene 1762

Arch^d M Clean

Elizabeth Ferguson

Greene Park March 16 1788

Elias Bowditch

Jno Young London 9th July 1789-

Eliza Stedman

William Smith

Math. Evans.

Geo Meade

will made June 14, 1769, he devised the whole of the Græme Park estate to his only surviving child, Elizabeth, on condition that she pay the sum of eight hundred pounds, unto John and Anna Young, and two hundred pounds, to their father, James Young, the husband of her sister, Jane, who had died in 1759. Unknown to her father, Miss Græme was married to Hugh Henry Ferguson, a Scotchman by birth, in Philadelphia, only a few months before his decease. The couple now took possession of the estate with the view of leading there a farmer's life. In the *Pennsylvania Packet* of October 27, 1773, seven hundred acres are advertised for sale in several tracts, no doubt to meet the aforesaid payments. In the same paper of May 6, 1776, we find the following advertisement giving a more complete description of the aforesaid tracts :

"*Valuable Farms to be sold.*—The greater part of that highly-improved estate commonly called Græme Park, late the property of Dr. Thomas Græme, deceased, is to be sold in farms of any quantity, from 100 to 300 acres, as may best suit the purchaser. A proportionate quantity of arable meadow and timber lands will be allotted to each farm, the Proprietor intending only to reserve the mansion, house, offices, etc., with a small portion of lands adjacent. The arable lands have been greatly improved by manurings and the best culture. The meadows produce the best kind of hay in great quantities, and they may always be kept in a flourishing state by being watered in the dryest seasons. The timber lands are of the best quality. A considerable quantity of excellent orchard can be allotted to one or two of the farms. Each of these farms, from its situation and quality, is calculated both for the amusement of the man of fortune and the profit of the industrious farmer—They will be sold for a reasonable price and an indisputable title given. For terms and further information, apply Elizabeth Ferguson on the premises, Charles Stedman at Philadelphia or Richard Stockton near Princeton, New Jersey."

In September, 1775, Mr. Ferguson sailed for England, and did not return until September, 1777, about the time the British took possession of Philadelphia. They appointed him commissary of prisoners, which no doubt greatly tended to induce him to espouse their cause. Mrs. Ferguson used her utmost endeavors to have him remain at the park, but her efforts all proved unavailing, and the result was that they never subsequently lived together. She, however, continued on the place until a very short time before her death. For his joining the British he was attainted of treason against the commonwealth, and the Legislature, by an act passed April 2, 1781, vested the entire premises in Mrs. Ferguson's right. The latter sold the estate, then reduced to five hundred and fifty-five acres, April 30, 1791, to Dr. William Smith, of Philadelphia, the husband of her ward and niece, Anna Young, for £3500, equivalent to \$9333. of our present currency. The latter, with his family, was now in the practice of spending his summers here with Mrs. Ferguson, who remained at the park. During the ownership of Dr. Smith he sold off several tracts, which reduced it, by 1801, to two hundred and four acres, which, with the mansion, he disposed to Samuel Penrose, of Richland township, Bucks Co.

In a letter from Mrs. Ferguson to Samuel W. Stockton, of Trenton, N. J., dated Græme Park, March 16, 1788, she says,—

"I am desirous of selling the farm. I am conscious of moral rectitude in the whole of my transactions. I have contracted debts within these few years on a supposition of speculation. I am in debt to those who want their money. Mr. Ferguson's dislike to writing and to all accurate explanations is a peculiarity in his temper that has ruined our domestic peace and will eventually separate us."

It will be seen by the aforesaid date that Mrs. Ferguson still continued on the place, and no doubt remained there until either just before or after Dr. Smith's sale.

There is not a doubt that on the removal of Samuel Penrose here the farm had become greatly exhausted from long and continuous tillage by tenants. He, as a practical farmer, at once set to work to have the lands made more productive and the buildings and fences improved. On his death it descended to his son, William Penrose, who had married, in 1810, the daughter of William Jarrett, a wealthy neighboring farmer, and a descendant of one of the old landed families of Horsham. Mr. Penrose died on his estate in 1863, aged eighty-one years, and while in possession of the property made extensive improvements upon it. It is now owned by his son, Abel Penrose, who has taken due pains to preserve the old mansion, though unoccupied, having had a new roof and repairs made to it about five years ago, costing nearly one thousand dollars. Several efforts have been made to purchase it, but in vain. From a long acquaintance we are inclined to believe that they intend celebrating there ere long a centennial of possession, and that is a credit for any family to take pride in. The Indian chief Gachradodow, in a speech made at Lancaster, this State, in 1755, said, "What little we have received for our land goes soon away, but the land lasts forever."

We have now briefly noticed the ownership of Græme Park from its first purchase and settlement to the present time. It yet remains for us to give short biographical sketches of the principal characters connected therewith, including some of its interesting associations. As a collector on the subject for over a third of a century, with the amount of material at command, we feel it no easy task to extract therefrom a well-condensed history, limited to but a few pages. It is its literary treasures that we now more particularly regret in thus withholding from those readers who may take a delight in this general subject, for it is doubtful whether, in this respect, any other spot in the country can approach it within the last century.

SIR WILLIAM KEITH.—This gentleman was descended from the Keiths of Ludquahairn, in the north of Scotland, baroneted in 1629. He was the son of Sir William Keith, and was appointed by Queen Anne surveyor-general of the customs in America at a salary of five hundred pounds. While holding this office it is known that for a part of the time he resided in Virginia. Shortly after the accession of George I. he was displaced, and, while making a brief stay in Philadelphia, soon became intimately ac-

quainted with its most influential people, on whom he made so profound an impression from his general knowledge and condescending manners, that they exercised their influence with the proprietary family to appoint him Deputy-Governor of Pennsylvania. When their minds had been made up they learned that he had left the city for Virginia, when two members of the Council at once dispatched a letter which reached him at New Castle, inviting him to return and hear their proposals. Mr. Keith came back, and matters were satisfactorily arranged between the parties.



SIR WILLIAM KEITH.

A letter of recommendation, in consequence, was prepared the 25th of Second Month, 1716, by the Council, and addressed to Hannah Penn, from which we make a brief extract :

"It has been hinted to him that, seeing a change is necessary here, whether under you or the Crown, could he obtain this government it might in some measure countervail his disappointment. To be under an easy administration of Government in America contributes highly to the subject's happiness ; that we may be excused we hope, if, from our acquaintance with this gentleman, we should wish to be particular of that ease under him which we believe all men might promise themselves from his administration if happily entrusted with it. As we have already acquainted you with the necessity we think there is for a change, what we intend by this principally is to give you our sentiments of this gentleman. If the proposal be approved, the further prosecution of it will naturally fall under his own management, in which we cannot but wish him success, as we are the Proprietor's and thy faithful friends."

It is in the handwriting of James Logan and signed by him, Robert Assheton, William Evans, Jasper Yeates, Richard Hill, Isaac Norris, Samuel Preston and Jonathan Dickinson. William Penn gave his consent, October 25th, for his appointment, subject, of course, to the royal approbation.

In a letter dated the following 12th of Twelfth Month, Hannah Penn communicated to James Logan the result of the application, as follows:

"Overlooking all other difficulties, have at your requests, got William Keith commissioned by my husband, and approved by the Crown ; and with a general consent, he now goes deputy-governor over that province and territories. Though he was pretty much a stranger to me, yet his prudent conduct and obliging behavior, joined with your observations thereon, give me and those concerned good hopes to believe that he will prove satisfactory. He is certainly an understanding man, and seems to have himself master of the affairs of your province, even beyond what one might expect in so short a time. Colonel Keith has obtained his approbation by so general a consent that, whatever becomes of the Proprietary governments, we think he will be continued over you, if his conduct answers his character."

On his appointment Governor Keith was forty-seven years of age, and his family at this time, as far as has been ascertained, consisted of his second wife, Ann Newberry (widow of Robert Diggs), who was aged forty-two; her only daughter, Ann Diggs, aged seventeen; and his sons,—Alexander Henry, Robert and William Keith. They embarked with Captain Annis in the beginning of May, 1717, and arrived in Philadelphia at noon on the 31st of said month. On June 31 the Governor wrote to Henry Gouldney, wherein he stated that he had arrived "after a tolerable but fatiguing passage," and his family increased by a boy, born May 10th at sea. It is stated that the party was also accompanied by Dr. Thomas Græme, a native of Perthshire, now in his twenty-ninth year and unmarried. Colonel Keith was received at his landing by Governor Gookin and his Council, attended by the alderman and officers of the city government. Having produced his commission and approval, it was ordered that it should be forthwith proclaimed and published in due form at the court-house, the mayor and corporation and inhabitants attending. Colonel Keith proposed to the Council that, for preventing any failure in the administration of justice, a proclamation should be forthwith issued for continuing all officers of the government till such time as new commissions may be issued, and the secretary was ordered to propose the same by ten o'clock, at which time a Council would be appointed.

From the minutes of Christ Church we learn that on February 3, 1718,

"Colonel Keith has been pleased, at a considerable charge, not only to erect a spacious pew right before the altar, to be appropriated in all time to come for the conveniency and use of the Governor and his family for the time being, but also to promise and voluntarily agree to pay the yearly rent of £5 per annum for the same, to the use of the church."

It is supposed that at this time the floor was of brick, for mention is made that they "were taken up to lay the foundations of the Governor's pew."

To show the indifference of the Penn family to matters of government whenever their interests were not concerned, we give here an extract of the Governor's letter, addressed to Hannah Penn, dated Philadelphia, May 1, 1718,—

"I can't but say it gives me some concern that I have never yet had the honour of a line from your family since I came hither. The Proprietor's death has been frequently surmised here of late, but I doubt not

we shall be able to baffle the doings of those who industriously set about to raise such reports."

It will be observed that on writing this he had been in the government here eleven months. William Penn died the following 30th of July, having been rendered, through paralysis, for some time previously incapable of attending to affairs of state. Hannah Penn, in a letter to Governor Keith, dated London, 8th of Eighth Month, 1720, thus expresses herself respecting his administration of affairs,—

"I am glad, however, to hear that in general thy administration of the government has been easy and satisfactory to the people, and that there is so good a harmony and unanimity among you which I desire may be kept up."

Governor Keith's transactions with the Indians during his administration are unusually interesting, and we regret that the want of space will only permit a brief mention. On the 5th of July, 1721, he proceeded to Conestoga, and on the following day held a council, in which he delivered to them a beautiful address, commending peaceable relations, as heretofore, and that they refrain from going to Virginia to hunt or in any way meddle with the Indian affairs there. This was replied to next day by Ghesaont, "in behalf of all the Five Nations," in eloquent remarks. He repeated his visit in June, 1722, and on the 15th of said month he gave them another address respecting the intrusion of the Marylanders on their lands, which he would endeavor in the future to prevent. Respecting this trip, he sent a letter to the Governor of Maryland, dated from Newberry, on the Susquehanna, June 23, 1722, in which he says,—

"My fatigue in the woods has brought a small fever upon me, which an ounce of bark has pretty much abated, so that to-morrow I shall return home by slow journeys directly to Philadelphia, where I shall rejoice to see you once more."

A petition was presented from "sundry freeholders and inhabitants of the City and County of Philadelphia," January 1, 1723, "setting forth that they are sensibly aggrieved in their estates and dealings, to the great loss and growing ruin of themselves and the evident decay of this province, for want of a medium to buy and sell with, and praying for a paper currency, was presented to the House, and read and ordered to lie on the table." This bill passed the Assembly, and was signed by the Governor, contrary to the wishes of the Penn family, which afterwards led to his being set aside by the appointment of a successor in the government. Respecting this subject, Dr. Franklin remarks,—

"I was on the side of the new emission of paper currency, convinced that the first small sum fabricated in 1723 had done much good in the province by favoring commerce, industry and population, since all the houses were now inhabited, and many others building; whereas, I remembered to have seen, when I first paraded the streets of Philadelphia eating my roll, the majority of those in Walnut street, Second street, Fourth street, as well as a great number in Chestnut and other streets, with papers on them signifying that they were to let, which made me think at the time that the inhabitants of the town were deserting it one after another."

Governor Keith, in his message to the Assembly on this occasion, thus referred to the subject,—

"When I reflect that this is the Seventh Assembly which in less than six years I have had the honour to meet as Governor of this Colony, and that no difference or uneasy disputes have yet happened in the Legislative Body, it is but natural to think that so happy an unanimity, with the blessing of God, has been chiefly owing to the commendable and hearty disposition which hitherto has prevailed in both parts of the Legislature to establish the true interest of the Government upon the happiness and prosperity of the governed. We all know it is neither the great or the rich, nor the learned, that compose the body of any people; and that civil government ought carefully to protect the poor, laborious and industrious part of mankind in the enjoyment of their just rights, and equal liberties and privileges, with the rest of their fellow-creatures."

Under date of London, May 20, 1724, Hannah Penn wrote to the Governor respecting the affairs of the province and of the late meeting he had attended at Albany with the Indians, respecting which she remarked that,—

"We hope and desire the same care of those poor people, the Indians, may still be continued; that the same measures my husband first established with them may be constantly pursued; and that on all occasions of moment, the Council, especially those members of it who are intrusted with the Affairs of Property, may be consulted; and that all Treaties with them may be managed with their concurrence and approbation. To these I shall only add, that as thou wert chosen in the time of my husband's weakness, by means of his friends only, to that important trust, it would be with some regret, should we be obliged to make a change before our final settlement with the Crown, though the means are ready at hand. We therefore earnestly desire that thy skill and abilities may be employed to render thy continuance yet grateful to us, which can be no other way effected than by a strict observation of thy former and these present instructions."

There can be no question that the latter remarks are insulting, and can reflect no credit to the one who wrote them. The emission of paper money did not concern the proprietors, yet we see here the most overbearing insolence aimed not only at the Governor, but against the chartered rights of the people.

At the celebration of the King's birthday at New Castle, May 28, 1724, the Governor was present, on which occasion they proceeded to the court-house, attended by the principal inhabitants of the place. The King's charter, establishing the city of New Castle with valuable privileges, was read, after which he made them an address, which was replied to by the mayor, recorder and aldermen. The Governor and Lady Keith were handsomely entertained at a dinner by the magistrates, when the King's health, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and all the royal family and numerous other loyal healths were drank with the discharge of cannon. The proceedings at the time were published by Samuel Keimer, of Philadelphia, and sold and distributed in New Castle by William Read, to which source we are indebted for this information.

In reply to Mrs. Penn's private instructions, September 24, 1724, the Governor further exposes the attempts to deprive him of his due authority, as follows:

"What else could have put it in Mr. Logan's head to advise you, Madam, to order the seal, which everywhere is looked upon as the sign of government, out of my hands into his possession. That it was so before my time, or, which is the same thing, that Mr. Logan exercised an absolute and despotic authority over my predecessor, which is well known, rendered the Governor at that time despicable in the eyes of the people, is a very poor argument to support such an extravagant demand as this,

which must extinguish all authority in the person of the governor whenever it is complied with."

Respecting the compensation allowed him for his services, Governor Keith remarks,—

"You will please to consider that the revenue here is the free gift of the people's representatives to the acting Governor, which they judiciously augment, lessen or withdraw annually, according to the expense which they observe he has been at in their service, and to the ease and satisfaction they receive from the justice of his administration. Moreover, although the revenue granted in my time has been larger than formerly, yet the expense and figure which the colony has made, both at home and abroad, has been more than proportionably advanced, whereby the saving profits, which may be supposed to have been applied to my use, have not arisen to so much as even those of former Governors, and this matter of fact is so universally known among the people that it will be altogether in vain to endeavor to contradict so notorious a truth."

In the "Votes of Assembly" (vol. ii. pp. 444-447) may be seen an able vindication of the Governor and legislative power, with a remonstrance sent to Hannah Penn's private instructions, drawn up by Chief Justice David Lloyd, and ordered by the Assembly to be sent to Mrs. Penn, from which we take this extract,—

"I cannot leave this subject without observing that the first Purchasers bought their lands dear, and came under perpetual quit-rents, which far exceeded what the Proprietaries of the adjacent Provinces required of their Tenants, but when they came to be handled in Secretary Logan's office, they were told they must pay *half a crown*, or a crown, English money, for every City lot forever, which the Proprietary had freely given to his purchasers, expecting, as was thought, but twelve pence Sterling per annum for every one hundred acres of their lands; and when they came for their patents there was a reservation of three full and clear fifth parts of all royal mines, free of all deductions and reprisals for digging and refining the same, whereas the Royal Charter had reserved but one-fifth part of such mines, clear of charges. You may find by your journal divers other instances of the Secretary's abuses and illtreatment of the people."

The Assembly, December 7th, prepared an address "To the Descendants of our late Honourable Proprietary, William Penn, Esq.," in which they nobly defend the Governor from the calumnies of a few enemies, and vindicate the beneficial results of his administration, and that they hope he may be continued in the office. In conclusion they state,—

"Much more might be said in favor of the Governor's administration which we omit, lest we should trespass too much upon your patience, hoping these short hints may be sufficient to obviate objections and remove the impression that some persons have endeavored to make on the minds of such as may be strangers to the circumstances of our affairs."

Major Patrick Gordon was commissioned Deputy-Governor of Pennsylvania by Springett Penn, with the assent of his stepmother, Hannah Penn, sanctioned by the royal approbation. He arrived in Philadelphia, June 22, 1726, and at once entered upon the duties of the office. On his retirement, Governor Keith's Council consisted of Richard Hill, Anthony Palmer, Henry Brooke, Thomas Græme, Isaac Norris, Robert Assheton, William Fishbourne and Evan Owen. He had now held the office above nine years, a much longer period than any other had previously from the beginning of the proprietary sway,—a period of forty-four years. No sooner had he been deprived of his position than he was

spoken of as a most probable candidate for the Assembly, to which he was elected the following October as one of the representatives of Philadelphia County.

As may be well supposed, the long-continued popularity of Governor Keith and his election to the Assembly gave considerable alarm to his few enemies, and their expressions on the subject are amusing and worth inserting. James Logan wrote, October 8, 1725, to John Penn that—

"For my own part I am quite tired with standing the public butt to all your enemies, and as I have been represented to those who would dissemble with you as if I had by my conduct contributed to those troubles, I take it to be of importance to you, as I find it absolutely necessary for my own ease that I should retire, for which having laid some foundation when last at Bristol. It is fit you should know in time that next fall I fully design (God willing) to take over my family to said city, and place them there, if not for life, at least till affairs take such a turn as to make it more eligible for an honest man to reside here than it can be at present, or ever will be while I am concerned in your Proprietary affairs, and your disputes among yourselves continue."

Governor Gordon wrote to the same, October 18, 1726, that his "predecessor" had been elected to the Assembly, and when this body met on the 14th—

"Sir William made his public entry into the city with about eighty horse, composed of butchers, tailors, blacksmiths, journeymen, apprentices and carters, marching two and two, Sir William being at the head of them, some ships firing their guns."

The Governor wrote again on the following 8th of May that—

"Everything that has been proposed by the moderate and well-meaning People of the House has been opposed by Sir William and his creatures, which consist of the Members of the City and County of Philadelphia. I am sorry to tell you that the influence of that Party has appeared in their late proceedings, much greater than we had been aware of, so that if there is not some course taken to make this man quiet we shall never be in peace here; doubtless you will think it advisable to bring about this good work for the ease of the country."

To a gentleman entertaining honorable motives and self-respect the position of a colonial Governor was a degrading one to hold, having no less than three masters to serve,—first, the proprietary family; with their feudal prerogatives, to whom he owed his commission and hampered him with selfish instructions; second, to the King, whose approbation he must secure, fettered by loyalty; and thirdly, the colony and Assembly, who voted him his annual salary, lessened or increased, as suited their pleasure for the services rendered. Franklin wrote as follows concerning Keith:

"Differing from the great body of the people whom he governed, in religion and manners, he acquired their esteem and confidence. If he sought popularity, he promoted the public happiness, and his courage in resisting the demands of the Proprietaries may be ascribed to a higher motive than private interest."

As stated, Governor Keith came in possession of his land at Horsham in 1718, and may not have commenced making improvements thereon earlier than in 1721; for in the spring of the following year we know he had his mansion there and other buildings pretty well under way. To his bill of sale, made May 21, 1726, to Dr. Thomas Græme and Thomas Sober for the sum of five hundred pounds sterling, was ap-

pended, "A schedule of the slaves, plate, household furniture, horses, cattle, goods, chattels upon Sir William Keith's plantation at Horsham, in the county of Philadelphia." The slaves mentioned are fourteen in number, called William, Jane, Mercury, Diana, Andrew, Caesar, Mary, Ann, Maria, Sarah, Robert, Harrington, Oronoca and William, five or six of whom are represented as children. Among the numerous items, mention is made of a silver punch-bowl, ladle and strainer, 4 salvers, 3 castors and 33 spoons, 70 large pewter plates, 14 dozen smaller plates, 6 basins, 6 brass pots with covers. Chinaware: 13 different sizes of bowls, 6 complete tea-sets, 2 dozen chocolate cups and saucers, 3 dozen small bowls and custard cups, 20 dishes of various sizes, 4 dozen plates, 6 mugs, 1 dozen fine coffee cups "and also many odd pieces of china." Of Delft stone and glassware: 18 jars, 12 venison pots, 6 white stone tea-sets, 12 mugs, 6 dozen plates and 12 fine wine decanters. Linen: 24 Holland sheets, 20 common sheets, 50 table-cloths, 12 dozen napkins, 16 bedsteads, 144 chairs of various kinds, 32 tables of various sizes, 3 clocks, 15 looking-glasses, 10 dozen knives and forks. Horses and stock: 4 coach horses, 7 saddle horses, 6 working horses, 2 mares and 1 colt, 4 oxen, 15 cows, 4 bulls, 6 calves, 31 sheep and 20 hogs; a large glass coach, 2 chaises, 2 wagons, 1 wain, 1 pair of timber wheels, 4 carts, 4 plows and 4 harrows. Much is omitted in the list of plate, tableware, parlor, bedroom and kitchen furniture, besides utensils of various kinds.

From what has just been given, we are enabled to judge that the Governor must have lived pretty sumptuously here, and that he entertained company, at times in considerable numbers. There is no doubt that at this date deer still abounded in the vicinity, and it is possible that he may have kept a herd on the place, as the "12 venison pots" are suggestive. What greatly surprises us is to find that after only a four or five years' possession for making improvements, he should be enabled to have his place so well stocked in horses, cattle and other animals, and which, no doubt, the place could support. The accomplishment of this, where all was so recently a wilderness, places Sir William Keith among the early improvers of the country. We here realize what James Logan mentioned concerning him in a letter to the Penn family, dated Philadelphia, October 8, 1724, in which he said that Colonel Spotswood, Governor of Virginia, had stated "That he was of an honorable family, a baronet, good-natured and obliging, and spends with a reputation to the place all he gets of the country." It has been published in a "Vindication," at London, that he had laid out six thousand pounds in lands and improvements, two thousand pounds on the Horsham estate and four thousand pounds on the erection of an iron-works in New Castle County. The former he settled on his wife, and the latter was retained for the security of his debts, having conferred, July 23, 1725, for the pur-

pose, a power of attorney on Samuel Preston, provincial treasurer of Pennsylvania, to collect all sums due him and pay the same over to his creditors,—Micajah Perry, John Gray, Edward Jeffries, Henry Gouldney and Thomas Pierce, all of London,—until they should be fully satisfied, they having furnished him with means to secure the office and outfit to Pennsylvania.

There is a tradition based on pretty good authority in the neighborhood that the baronet had a prison built on his estate for offenders. Descended as he was from an old feudal family, we have thought in consequence that he may have here held at times a manorial court for the trial of his servants and slaves, who thus had punishment meted out to them, as was then the case in England and Scotland; hence the foundation of this lingering and oft-told circumstance. In the Minutes of Council for June 3, 1721, he is for the first time styled "The Honourable Sir William Keith," which would denote that his father had died in the spring, and that the son had inherited the title. In October, 1727, he was again elected to the Assembly, and we find, in looking over their proceedings, that he was placed on some of their most important committees. In the following April he sent in his resignation to that body, stating that affairs of importance had now called him to Great Britain, for which they excused him, so that new writs be issued for electing some other person in his place. On the question being put, the House allowed his absence. So, in the spring of 1728, he went on board Captain Colvell's ship at New Castle and sailed for Great Britain. We learn from the *Gentleman's Magazine* that in June, 1732, he was elected a member of Parliament for Aberdeen, to supply the place of Sir Archibald Grant, who had been expelled from the House of Commons.

He gave himself subsequently to authorship, and wrote a "History of Virginia, with remarks on the Trade and Commerce of that Colony: Printed at the expense of the Society for the Encouragement of Learning," at London, in 1738. It is a handsome quarto of one hundred and eighty-seven pages, elegantly printed, with two maps. This work he dedicated "To His Royal Highness, Frederick, Prince of Wales." At page three of the introduction he states his object,— "To trace out, from the first English Expedition into America, the particular History of each Colony in its natural order of Time, observing the changes which have happened to their respective Soils, Trade and Government." Respecting this work, Jefferson, in his "Notes on Virginia," speaks very favorably. Sir William Keith died in London, November 17, 1740, aged nearly eighty years, one account says in the Old Bailey, and that his title would descend to his son Robert, then a lieutenant-colonel under Marshal Keith, in the Prussian service. In the deed of conveyance to Lady Keith of the Horsham estate, April 23, 1731, mention is made of "Alexander Henry Keith, Esquire, eldest surviving son and heir-ap-

parent of the said Sir William." The aforesaid was collector at New Castle and one of the three commissioners for holding a Court of Admiralty at Philadelphia, October 15, 1731. From the "Votes of Assembly," (vol. ii.) it is ascertained that he had also a son William, who was his private secretary while Governor. Respecting his last son we can gain no additional particulars.

Lady Ann Keith was born in 1675, near London, and on the death of her husband, Robert Diggs, subsequently married Sir William Keith. With the former she had a daughter, Ann Diggs, who became the wife of Dr. Thomas Græme. On her voyage hither with Governor Keith, in May, 1717, she had a son born at sea. In 1737 she parted with all her claims to the Horsham estate, of which her son-in-law became sole owner in 1739. About this time she made her home altogether in the city, where she died, July 31, 1740, aged sixty-five years. Her remains repose in the south side of Christ churchyard, beside the Græme family, where a large stone has been placed to her memory. She did not die in poverty, having wealthy descendants and relatives; neither did she survive her husband many years, as is stated by Watson in his "Annals," and since circulated by others.

DR. THOMAS GRÆME.—The subject of this sketch was born at the ancestral seat of Balgowan, in Perthshire, Scotland, October 20, 1688. The family being an ancient one, intermarried with the principal nobility of that country, their coat-of-arms indicating a royal descent from a daughter of Robert III. It is very probable that he graduated in medicine at the University of Leyden, for in his evidence respecting the Maryland boundary dispute in 1740 he stated that he had been there in 1712. The next we know he embarked with Governor Keith's family, in the beginning of May, 1717, for America, and arrived in Philadelphia at the close of said month. He was married in Christ Church, Nov. 12, 1719, to Ann Diggs, the Governor's step-daughter, who was then in her nineteenth year, and a native of St. Albans, England. From the family record it appears that Dr. Græme at first resided with the Governor, for mention is made that his first child, Thomas, was "born in the house of Governor Keith, in Philadelphia, September 5, 1721." In 1719 he was first appointed to the naval office, and February 24, 1726, became a member of the Council, in which he served until the close of the Governor's administration. He was appointed by Governor Gordon, April 8, 1731, one of the three justices of the Supreme Court, which position he retained until September, 1750,—nearly twenty years,—and in addition, was made, April 28, 1732, a "Justice of Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery for Philadelphia, Bucks and Chester."

Dr. Græme succeeded in obtaining an extensive medical practice in the city and its neighborhood, and became acknowledged as one of its most skillful and

successful physicians. In connection with this subject he sent a letter to Thomas Penn, dated Philadelphia, November 7, 1746, wherein he says,—

"Yours of the 20th of May I received with the greatest acknowledgment of your goodness in regard to my care of Nanny Hockley, and, as it gave you satisfaction, very much added to mine. This leads me to say something in regard to myself, which is, that I can assure you I begin to feel very sensibly the impression of years upon my constitution. I have this fall been under a lingering intermittent fever, of which I am pretty well recovered; but the complaint sticks in me, and of which I never expect to be freed from, is an insupportable fatiguing cough, which I should take to be truly consumption, were it not I keep pretty free from hectic fever. Yet it is such as will oblige me to retire into the country for some time next spring for a change of air, and to live on whey and buttermilk, and whether I shall be ever able after to follow my practice I cannot say, but doubt it much. I have the satisfaction to let you know that your little negro family got well from the small-pox this summer. Early in the spring I had much to do to keep your maid, Hagar, from a consumption. Your Dutchman, Jacob, has been very ill, but is now recovered."

These persons were employed on Thomas Penn's estate at Springettsbury, Mrs. Hockley being stewardess, the negroes slaves, and the doctor attending physician.

In 1739 Dr. Græme was appointed physician of the port, and in 1751 physician and surgeon to the Pennsylvania Hospital. The latter position he resigned in 1753. With his brother, Patrick Græme, a merchant of Philadelphia, he purchased, in the present Northampton County, in 1739, three thousand acres of land. In December, 1749, the St. Andrew's Society was founded, with a view of rendering aid to unfortunate Scotchmen, of which he was elected president, and continued therein until his death. Thomas Penn, in a letter to Governor Hamilton, of September 8, 1751, stated that "some time since I wrote to Dr. Græme and Mr. Peters to lay out some ground in the forks of Delaware for a town, which I suppose they have done. I desire that it be called Easton, and when there is a new county that it shall be called Northampton." In the doctor's correspondence to his daughter, at Græme Park, July 6, 1754, he spoke of his coach, and in another letter, of his wagon proceeding there from the city. James Young, his future son-in-law, in a letter of May 13, 1755, to the family at the park, announce a visit there from Mr. Roberdeau. He also spoke of the splendid tulips then out in bloom in the doctor's garden in the city. In a letter of the following 18th of September mention was made of Mrs. Græme's being ill and suffering from chills and fever at her Horsham home.

Mrs. Græme wrote, May 1, 1753, to her daughter in Burlington, that "we will be in a delightful place, for your papa has taken Mr. Shippen's house, which we will go into on June 1st, and Messrs. Franklin and Galloway have taken ours." Respecting this change, John Penn wrote from the city, the following November 7th, to his uncle, Thomas Penn, that "Dr. Græme lives in Mr. Shippen's house, and has taken it for five years; there are, I believe, four rooms on a floor. I believe the front is forty-five feet and about the same in depth. The inside is not quite finished. They

have made the kitchen under the house, which is disagreeable in warm weather."

From a letter written by Dr. Græme, June 6, 1760, to Thomas Penn, we derive some additional information respecting the family. He wrote:

"I now come to return you my most humble thanks for your condolence on the loss of my brother, whom you know I most affectionately regarded, as also for what befel Captain Græme. These distresses happening at the same time I lost my daughter (Jane, wife of James Young) made it a scene of affliction in my family, such as I never felt before. As to my nephew, his disorder was a melancholy, yet, in most respects, seemed to retain his understanding. In respect to the tar-water, I labor under a cough, and it has done me great service. I am now going in my seventy-first year, at which time of life it cannot be expected but what I shall feel my growing infirmities, so I have reason to be thankful that it is not worse with me."

His nephew, Charles Græme, here alluded to, was a captain in the British army, who had been in the siege of Louisburg, and but recently deceased.

Mrs. Græme wrote from Græme Park, August 20, 1762, to her daughter Elizabeth, in the city, to "tell Barbara I can't think of her coming here now, because your sister is so crowded with people that any addition would be quite an intrusion, as there are masons and carpenters at work in her kitchen." The sister here meant was Ann, wife of Charles Stedman, merchant of the city, who were then in the practice of spending their summers here. It is evident that they had at that time numerous visitors and that repairs were then being made on the place. During the summer of 1763, through the hands of his neighbor, John Jarrett, of Horsham, Dr. Græme made a donation of books to the Hatboro' Library, which were valued by the directors at fifteen pounds. At the annual meeting, the following November 5th, he received a letter of thanks for so kind a gift.

Dr. Græme wrote from the city, September 10, 1763, to his daughter Elizabeth, at the park,—

"I am glad your Mama stayed till Monday, by which she should have a proof of her distemper abating, and the fine weather since, with so much change of pure air, will no doubt contribute to her recovery. It gives me likewise pleasure to hear that your own health seems so thoroughly established, yet I desire you not to trust to the change of weather, but when damp comes to take a glass twice a day of the bark and bitters, I sent for your use. I hear your cider-mill is brought into good order, notwithstanding which it will be time enough to begin cider-making the week after next. We have next our second crop of hay to get made. I have pressed Henry White to see that Roberts gets the shed ready to put the apples in, which will be a great convenience in carrying on your manufacture. It is still uncertain whether I shall come the latter end of next week or not; it would suit me better one week longer. Pay my compliments to your bashful companion, which is all I choose to offer."

In June, 1764, Elizabeth Græme, in company with the Rev. Richard Peters, of Philadelphia, sailed for Europe, the former with a view of receiving some medical treatment and of visiting her relatives in Scotland. Her mother, who was now in declining health, sent her a letter, dated the 17th of the following month, in which she said,—

"This day, and just at this time, it is a month since you left these

Capes; many tell me you are now on shore, but I think it is too soon to indulge in this pleasing hope. A tedious time it will be till I can hear from you, but I will hope the account will be good when it comes. When you receive this, think you see me in the dining-room writing; Anna sitting by me at her work, desiring me to give her duty; John driving a little cart through the entry, enjoying himself with high glee, and no anxiety for the future; your Papa reading the newspaper in the office."

James Young wrote to Miss Græme from Philadelphia, April 3, 1765, in reference to her parents,—

"I should think it the duty of my friendship to you to let you know, without hesitation, as you are as good a judge of their time of life as I can be: Your Papa continues as hearty as usual; your Mama's delicate and tender constitution often makes me uneasy, neither is it to be expected that at her time of life she can be free from all the disorders that afflict the human form. These are the reasons, my dear Betsy, I earnestly wish to see you home in the fall of the year, and I hope you will bring good health with you."

Mrs. Græme died in the city May 29, 1765, aged nearly sixty-five years. In the last letter to her daughter, written fourteen days before her death, she said,—

"These considerations have made me quite resigned as to seeing you, and indeed, my dear, as you went out of the Courtyard into the chaise, something whispered to me, 'you have taken your last look of her.' Two similar impressions I had in my life before, both of which proved true."

The following letter (copied from the original) to the absent daughter is so admirable in its style that we give it entire:

"PHILADELPHIA, May 30th, 1765.

"My much-loved Friend I hope will arm herself with resolution and fortitude on this trying occasion, and call to her aid resignation. My heart is too full to say much, but you have much consolation in the certainty of your dear Mama being happy. I sat with her from six last evening till four in the morning, close to her head and observed each movement. Oh, my dear Betsy, you were never one moment out of my thoughts. To tell what I felt would but affect you too much, when the last breath was gone and that dear body cold and insensible. I closed her eyes, for my friend I know would be pleased that strangers might not perform this last sad office.

"This is Wednesday, and on Sunday I saw she was going very fast and I kissed her, as I thought, for the last time. She begged a blessing for me. I cannot dwell longer on this subject, but be assured I am your truly afflicted Friend,

"ELIZA STEDMAN."

From a letter sent by Mrs. Ann Stedman to her sister, Miss Græme, dated June 4th, we receive additional information,—

"I must now inform you that she has not been quite well since you left. She was quite sensible till about two hours before she died, and spoke to comfort me and left her blessing with me for you. By the last letters she wrote you she was so weak that she could not write above four lines at a time; yet she wrote as cheerful as though nothing had been the matter. You was one of the last persons that she thought of in this life. Be assured that I shall use every method in my power to make our dear remaining parent easy till your return, which you may imagine we all are very anxious for; but your dear father intends writing himself, so I shall say nothing for him only that he is very much to be pitied at his time of life to meet with such a loss, though he bears it with great composure. He says everything shall be done that our dear mother directed. She made known all her bequests in a letter that she wrote our dear father, and she has also left a letter for every one of her family, to be opened a month after her decease. I am preparing to go to Græme Park, where our father has promised to stay the best part of the summer, and when I am there I will write more fully."

Francis Hopkinson, while on a visit to Græme Park in July, 1765, composed "An Elegy sacred to the Memory of Mrs. Ann Græme," which may be seen in the third volume of his published works, comprising four pages. The following are the concluding lines:

"Oh! may I strive her footsteps to pursue,
And keep the Christian's glorious prize in view:
Like her defy the stormy waves of life,
And with heroic zeal maintain the strife:
Like her find comfort in the arms of death,
And in a peaceful calm resign my breath."

Mrs. Græme was an excellent and remarkable woman, who took great pains in the rearing and proper training of her children, taking their instruction under her immediate charge. She had herself received a good education, was fond of books and delighted in literary society. Her "Farewell Advice" to her daughter Elizabeth, in England, is a fine composition, about four or five ordinary foolscap pages in length. Dr. Rush speaks of Mrs. Græme as possessing "a masculine mind, with all the female charms and accomplishments which render a woman agreeable to both sexes."

After the death of his wife, at the earnest solicitation of his family, Dr. Græme retired to his country home to spend there the remainder of his long life. Here in a walk he suddenly dropped down dead on Friday, September 4, 1772, lacking only forty-six days of being aged eighty-four years. His funeral was held on Sunday afternoon following, on which occasion the Rev. William Smith, D.D., provost of the college, preached the sermon, his interment taking place in Christ Churchyard, beside his wife and family, who had preceded him. On his tomb are the following lines, no doubt the composition of his daughter, Mrs. Ferguson:

"The soul that lived within the crumbling dust
In every act was eminently just;
Peaceful through life, as peaceful, too, in death,
Without one pang he rendered back his breath."

Dr. Græme appears to have been unusually respected, and in all our researches we have not been able to find any reflections whatever against his character. He was a prudent and successful business man, avoiding debt and a stranger to pecuniary embarrassments. Dr. Rush states that, "For nearly half a century he maintained the first rank in his profession in the city of Philadelphia." Thatcher, in his "Medical Biography," published in 1828, mentions him as possessing "an excellent education and agreeable manners, and was, therefore, much employed as a practitioner, and greatly confided in by his fellow-citizens." In his long possession of Græme Park estate he did much to improve it, and its area of near one thousand acres was not diminished in his lifetime.

MRS. ELIZABETH FERGUSON.—This lady was the youngest child of Dr. Thomas Græme, and born at

the family residence, in Second Street, Philadelphia, February 3, 1739.

Dr. Rush in his account in the *Portfolio* of 1809 (vol. i. p. 520) said,—

"She discovered in early life signs of uncommon talents and virtues, both of which were cultivated with great care, and chiefly by her mother. Her person was slender and her health delicate. The latter was partly the effect of native weakness, being a seven-months child, and partly acquired by too great an application to books. She passed her youth in the lap of parental affection. A pleasant and highly-improved retreat known by the name of Græme Park, where her parents spent their summers, afforded her the most delightful opportunities for study, meditation, rural walks and pleasures, and, above all, for cultivating a talent for poetry. This retreat was, moreover, consecrated to society and friendship. A plentiful table was spread daily for visitors, and two or three ladies from Philadelphia generally partook with Miss Græme of the enjoyments which her situation in the country afforded."

In a letter to Miss Græme at Burlington, dated Philadelphia, September 24, 1755, in which her mother said,—

"I steal time to write, notwithstanding my hurry, which you may believe is not a little, as Sir John goes to-day at twelve, and we must have dinner ready before that, besides other company dines here. We shall now return to our usual quiet. Your room is ready for you, and I hope by the very first opportunity you will let me know when I shall send for you, for I shall have no peace till you come home. I am so afraid of your being sick, which you cannot escape there at this season. This comes by a servant of Sir John's; he probably will make you a call, if he goes to Bristol, for he inquired twice if he should not see you at home before he went, and when we told him you was at Burlington, he said that he would have an opportunity of seeing you there. He is an extremely calm, polite, reasonable gentleman, the very reverse of what we were told. I send you the ticket to the Ball; it was a sumptuous one. The supper dressed by the General's French cook, and his plate set out on the sideboard, besides a great deal of plate borrowed from the Governor, Mr. Allen and others. Notwithstanding all these preparations I understand the officers did not gain much favor from the ladies. There was a great number not at the Ball, including our family. I hope you will have an opportunity of seeing the army march through Bristol; they go from here on Monday."

We infer the gentleman meant in this communication was Sir John St. Clair.

In August, 1762, a small party was made up, consisting of Alexander Stedman and wife, Charles Stedman and wife, Mr. Bremer, Francis Hopkinson, Miss Shoman and Miss Græme, for a traveling jaunt into the country. From Græme Park they proceeded to Bethlehem, Reading, Lancaster, Duncannon and the Elizabeth Furnace, at Manheim. At the latter place the Messrs. Stedman had purchased, in the previous February, of Isaac Norris, nine hundred acres, on which said town had been laid out, now containing some seventy or eighty dwellings. Charles Stedman was married to Ann, Dr. Græme's eldest daughter, who was born in 1726. Respecting this excursion, Miss Græme subsequently wrote, "It seems a fairy dream, like some of Susquehanna's islands, when the magic wand of memory wakes up those days. We tasted the feast of reason and the flow of soul."

Said Dr. Rush,—

"About her seventeenth year Miss Græme was addressed by a citizen of Philadelphia, of respectable connections and character. She gave him her heart, with the promise of her hand upon his return from London, whither he went to complete his education in the law. From



MRS. ELIZABETH FERGUSSON.

causes which it is not necessary to detail the contract of marriage, at a future day, was broken, but not without much suffering on the part of Miss Græme. To relieve and divert her mind from the effects of this event she translated the whole of *Telemachus* into English verse; but this, instead of saving, perhaps aided the distress of her disappointment in impairing her health, and that to such a degree as to induce her father, in conjunction with two other physicians, to advise a voyage to England for its recovery, her mother concurring in this opinion."

Respecting this "affair of the heart," several allusions are found at this time in her correspondence. Margaret Abercrombie, in a letter dated May 11, 1763, thus referred to the matter,—

"It would have afforded me no small degree of satisfaction to have had the pleasure of seeing you before I left the city. I understood you are now at Græme Park, and I think that charming retreat cannot fail of affording you some pleasure and amusement, and I hope will contribute to your health."

The same wrote again on the 20th of said month, saying,—

"In regard to my friend, as you are pleased to style him, I have little to offer either in vindication of his actions or his arguments, and wish, if it was possible, you could erase from your mind a person who has been the cause of giving you and the rest of your worthy family so much uneasiness, for I have no doubt but the overruling hand of Providence has ordered this as well as every other event for some wise end and design, which at present our narrow minds cannot comprehend or see into."

From a letter by her father, dated Philadelphia, the following 15th of June, we ascertain that Miss Græme was still at the park, dangerously ill, and suffering much from excessive pains in her head.

At the time that Miss Græme made her translation of Bishop Fenelon's celebrated work of *Telemachus* she must have been aged about twenty-one or twenty-two years. The original manuscript, comprised in two manuscript volumes, was presented by the late Samuel F. Smith, a great-grandson of Dr. Græme, to the Philadelphia Library, in whose possession it remains. There is no question but she was a fine French scholar, which this production sufficiently attests, and it is now remarkable for being one of the few translations from a foreign modern language in America during the colonial period. In scanning over its numerous pages, we cannot help but be impressed at the industry of this remarkable lady, who, it is said, accomplished most of her labors at night.

On the 17th of June, 1764, in company with the Rev. Richard Peters, rector of Christ and St. Peter's Churches, embarked at Philadelphia for Europe. Respecting this, Governor John Penn wrote, on the 19th, to his uncle, Thomas Penn, that "Mr. Peters is in a bad state of health, and I believe could not have got through here this summer. Miss Græme has gone with him for the recovery of her health and to see her relations in Scotland." From her correspondence we learn that they visited Liverpool, York, Scarborough, Bath, Bristol and London. "As to shells," she wrote, "I thought I saw more beautiful ones in Dr. Fothergill's cabinet than in the British Museum." Mrs. Græme wrote, April 11, 1765, to her daughter,—

"Your journal gave great delight to all, but exquisite pleasure to me, for I think, when I read it, I see you telling me what you have seen and

know; I am delighted with your having seen so many things and places. I suppose you will close the second part upon going to Scotland, and send it as soon as you can, for we all long to see it. These, my dear, will be an entertainment for you and for your friends through life."

She visited Thomas Penn and his lady, Juliana, at their country residence and also in London. In the following September she went to Scotland, to the family seat of Balgowan, then in possession of Thomas Græme, her father's nephew, and consequently her first cousin, who received her very kindly, and on her departure presented her with several works from his library, containing his book-plate and the Græme coat-of-arms. His son afterwards became Lord Lyn-



ELIZABETH GRÆME'S BOOK-PLATE, 1766.

dock. It appears that the design was that Miss Græme should also visit the Continent, more particularly a brother of Charles and Alexander Stedman, in Holstein, Denmark, but owing to the death of her mother she was induced to return home, taking passage with Mr. Peters and the Rev. Nathaniel Evans, on board of Captain Spark's ship, at London, and arrived in Philadelphia December 26, 1765. In reference to Miss Græme's trip, Dr. Rush states,—

"She was accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Richard Peters, of Philadelphia, a gentleman of highly-polished manners, and whose rank enabled him to introduce her to the most respectable circles of company. She sought and was sought for by the most celebrated literary gentleman who flourished in England at the time of the accession of George the Third to the throne. She was introduced to this monarch, and particularly noticed by him. The celebrated Dr. Fothergill, whom she consulted as a physician, became her friend, and corresponded as long as she lived. Upon her return to Philadelphia she was visited, by a numerous circle of friends, as well to condole with her upon the death of her mother, as to welcome her arrival to her native shores. They soon discovered, by the stream of information she poured upon her friends, that she had been 'all eye, all ear, and all grasp,' during her visit to Great Britain. The journal she kept of her travels was a feast to all who read it. Manners and characters in an old and highly civilized country, contrasted with those to which she had been accustomed in our own, accompanied with many curious facts and anecdotes, were the component parts of this interesting manuscript. Her modesty alone prevented its being made public, and thereby affording a specimen to the world, and to posterity, of her happy talents for observation, reflection and composition.

"In her father's family she now occupied the place of her mother. She kept his house and presided at his table and fireside in entertaining all his company. Such was the character of Dr. Græme's family for hospitality and refinement of manners that all the strangers of note who visited Philadelphia were introduced to it. Saturday evenings were ap-

propriated, for many years during Miss Græme's winter residence in the city, for the entertainment, not only of strangers, but of such of her friends of both sexes as were considered the most suitable company for them. These evenings were, properly speaking, of the attic kind. The genius of Miss Græme evolved the heat and light that animated them. It was at one of these evening parties she first saw Mr. Henry Hugh Ferguson, a handsome and accomplished young gentleman, who had lately arrived in this country from Scotland. They were suddenly pleased with each other. Private interviews soon took place between them, and in the course of a few months they were married. The inequality of their ages (for he was ten years younger) was opposed, in a calculation of their conjugal happiness, by the sameness of their attachment to books, retirement and literary society."

Mrs. Ferguson stated in her manuscripts that she first saw Henry Hugh Ferguson, at her father's house in the city, December 7, 1771, and was married to him at Swede's Church, April 21, 1772, at eight o'clock in the evening, nearly four and a half months previous to her father's death, who was then at Græme Park, and upwards of eighty-three years of age. On this occasion, as they were about returning, a family tradition states, she stumbled in the churchyard and fell on a grave, when some one present remarked that this accident betokened to her an ill omen for the future. As Mrs. Ferguson was now aged thirty-three years, if Dr. Rush is correct, her husband was only



COAT OF ARMS, GRAEME, OF BALGOWAN.

twenty-three,—certainly a great and odd inequality, Dr. Græme was strongly opposed to the match, and died ignorant of the marriage. Tradition states that Mr. Ferguson urged her to inform him, but she deferred, when he stated that if she delayed much longer he would go up to Græme Park and disclose the matter to him. One morning, as the doctor went out to take his usual walk before breakfast, Mrs. Ferguson had decided to tell her father. "I sat," she states, "on the bench at the window, and watched him coming up the avenue. It was a terrible task to perform. I was in agony; at every step he was approaching nearer. As he reached the tenant-house, near the gate, he fell and died. Had I told him the day before, as I thought of doing, I should have reproached myself for his death and gone crazy." The remarkable circumstances attending this marriage have been

rendered in exquisite lines by Dr. John Watson, a native and resident of Buckingham, Bucks Co., grandfather of Judge Richard Watson, of Doylestown. Laura was Mrs. Ferguson's *nom de plume* to her various poetical contributions,—

LINES ON MRS. FERGUSON'S MARRIAGE.

BY JOHN WATSON.

- "Can the muse that laments the misfortunes of love
Draw a shade o'er the sorrowful tale,
That Laura was cheated and fully could prove
That Scotchmen have honor that sometimes may fail?
- "She says that the lady took not the advice
Of a tender, kind parent in what she should do;
To suit his good will in a matter so nice,
And the visions of fancy would not bear her through;
- "For pastoral changed to the tragedy style,
And taught a hard lesson too late;
Though the rashness of youth in its folly may smile,
Yet in tears must submit to its fate.
- "Young Ferguson ran from whence he had came,
And a slice of her fortune he pillaged away;
Then Love, the sly rogue, must bear all the blame,
And in his defence had nothing to say;
- "But laughed at the mischief, and to a romance
Reduced the whole life of a lady so gay;
Fine fancy refined still led up the dance,
Politeness and learning the music did play.
- "But religion has hopes for the heart that's sincere,
And feels for the sorrows of human distress,
That tenderly wipes away poverty's tear
In a way that may make its impression the less.
- "Kind charity pleads in her advocate's cause
That the frailties of nature may all be forgiven,
That kindness of heart should meet with applause,
And virtue on earth a reward in heaven."

Immediately on the death of her father, Mrs. Ferguson and her husband removed on the Græme Park estate, which had already been bequeathed to her. Their object now was to settle down here and lead a farmer's happy and independent life. We find Henry Hugh Ferguson at a quarterly meeting of the Haboro' Library Company, held February 6, 1773, admitted a member in the place of John Hart, whose share he had purchased. At the annual meeting of November 5, 1774, he was elected one of its three directors, and again the following year, which is the last mention of his name in their minutes. He was commissioned a justice of the peace for Philadelphia County February 13, 1775, his being the last appointment to this office under the colonial government. He must have already expressed himself quite openly on the approaching troubles of the Revolution, for Anna Young, in a letter to her aunt, from Philadelphia, June 14th, thus expressed herself,—

"Please remember me to Mr. Ferguson. I cannot help regretting that a gentleman so formed by nature and education to take a part in the present contest with honor to himself and advantage to the community, should unfortunately possess sentiments which must in my humble opinion condemn his talents to rest in obscurity."

In September following, in company with Samuel W. Stockton, of New Jersey, he sailed for England,

for the purpose, it is said, of settling up some family affairs in Scotland. He remained abroad until March, 1777, when he took passage to Jamaica, and from thence to New York. From the latter place he went with the army to Philadelphia with a view to return to Græme Park, when a pass was refused him, and having learned that such an attempt must be attended with a great deal of hazard, he remained and they appointed him a commissary of prisoners while they held the city. Mr. Ferguson was assessed in Horsham, in 1776, as holding eight hundred acres of land, one negro, six horses, six cattle and eight sheep, £58 8s.

Just before his departure for Europe, Margaret Stedman wrote to Mrs. Ferguson from the city, September 2, 1775,—

"I am really sorry I am necessitated to tell you all my endeavors to accommodate you with a girl and household-servant have as yet proved ineffectual. If I did not know from frequent experience that you set no bounds or limitations to your kindness in regard to your friends, I should be led to congratulate you on a little cessation from company now, as of late I cannot help thinking you have indeed had a repetition of visitors. Mr. Ferguson and your polite easy manner, joined to the pleasing reception you never fail of giving your friends, deprives them, I believe, of the power of readily quitting your hospitable mansion. As for Mr. Ferguson, the natural sweetness of his temper renders him so very engaging that it is impossible not to be pleased where he is. In short, you are both so calculated to give pleasure, as well as improvement, that I look on your distance of situation as a general loss of society."

The position of Mrs. Ferguson through the Revolutionary period was a pitiable one. That her young husband was indifferent to her and desired to make use of her property for his selfish interests there is not a doubt; to this we will hereafter refer. She was then, indeed, a lonely woman, nearly forty years of age, and no near relation or friend to render either advice or protection in so trying a time. It would have been much better for her had she given up all ideas as to the return of her husband, and been contented to remain on her estate, and attend only to its interests. But her fondness for society and desire to be conspicuous, though it gave her notoriety, only so much the more increased her troubles. Naturally kind-hearted and benevolent, through the selfish purposes of those she thought her friends, she was only too often made use of as an instrument to carry out their designs, in which she could possibly receive neither interest or benefit. This will become the more apparent as we progress in this brief biography.

The Rev. Jacob Duché, an eloquent Episcopal clergyman of the city, who had been a favorite of Mrs. Græme from his boyhood, and the first chaplain to Congress, on hearing of the American defeat at Germantown, set himself to work in the city to prepare a letter to Washington, to induce him to save the further effusion of blood in so hopeless a cause, and, if necessary, at the head of his army, to compel Congress to sue for peace and thus serve his country and the cause of humanity to the utmost. This communication was dated October 8, 1777, and

its author prevailed on Mrs. Ferguson to carry it to the American camp. She accordingly delivered it to Washington on the 15th of the month, at his headquarters in Towamencin. In respect to this matter, the general thus wrote to the Congress:

"I, yesterday, through the hands of Mrs. Ferguson, of Graham Park, received a letter of a very curious and extraordinary nature from Mr. Duché, which I have thought proper to transmit to Congress. To this ridiculous, illiberal performance, I made a short reply, by desiring the bearer of it, if she would hereafter by any accident meet with Mr. Duché, to tell him I should have returned it unopened if I had had any idea of the contents; observing at the same time, that I highly disapproved the intercourse she seemed to have been carrying on, and expected it would be discontinued. Notwithstanding the author's assertion, I cannot but suspect that the measure did not originate with him, and that he was induced to it by the hope of establishing his interest and peace more effectually with the enemy."

That he should have selected a woman to deliver it personally, a task which no man would have knowingly assumed, was certainly ingenious. The bearer might have been ignorant of its contents. The writer regrets that the information that passed on this occasion between Mrs. Ferguson and Washington, cannot be given here.

Mrs. Ferguson having secured a pass from Washington with a view of seeing her husband in the city, relative to his being charged with treason, made her stay at the house of her brother-in-law, Charles Stedman, in June, 1778. Governor George Johnstone, one of the three British commissioners sent to arrange proposals of peace with the colonies, on learning of Mrs. Ferguson being there, sought her out, that she might be made the instrument for further negotiations with those in power on the American side. He at once expressed himself fully on the subject to the lady, to her great surprise and astonishment, and at the same time holding out a bribe to General Reed for his influence, stating that he had actually sent a letter to him on this matter April 11th previous. On next seeing General Reed, June 21st, he related the circumstances to him, and he, it appears, at once and justly took alarm that such information should now get out and place him in a very equivocal situation. The result was that in self-defense he laid the letter before Congress, which body, August 11th following, passed a resolution that all such offers *as were made therein* would be looked upon as corruption and bribery, and that no further correspondence or intercourse can be held with the said George Johnstone, Esq., "especially to negotiate with him upon affairs in which the cause of liberty is interested." There is no doubt that in this transaction, to guard himself from any suspicion, General Reed tried to implicate Mrs. Ferguson as much as possible, as the correspondence of her friends at that time disclosed.

We now come to treat in these troublous times of her title to the estate that had been bequeathed to her by her father. Her husband, H. Hugh Ferguson, was charged with treason to the commonwealth by going over to the British and aiding their cause.

Mr. Ferguson had no title whatever to said estate, except what right he may have acquired by marriage, and further, as a foreigner, but a few years here, how could he be charged as a loyalist with treason to this government, unless he owed it allegiance? To have made this good would have been an utter impossibility. A portion of Mrs. Ferguson's personal property had been sold on these grounds, and it was now meant to sell the estate on her husband's account in 1779. To counteract the influence of General Reed, her friends began to set themselves actively to work in her behalf; among these were George Meade, Elias Boudinot, Rev. Nathaniel Irvine, Rev. James Abercrombie, Rev. William White, Rev. William Smith, Daniel Roberdeau, Thomas Franklin, General Mifflin, Benjamin Rush and others. A petition was drawn up by Andrew Robeson, and numerous signed and sent to the Assembly, March 1, 1781, who passed an act, April 2d, vesting the right of said estate altogether in Mrs. Ferguson. The House had, May 26, 1780, recommended the Supreme Executive Council to defer the sale of Græme Park, and that she be permitted to live rent-free thereon under the indulgence of the commonwealth by paying the taxes.

There is no question that the patriotism of Mrs. Ferguson, through her peculiar situation, was severely tried. Her relations were divided on the subject. The Stedmans and her nephew, John Young, were loyalists, while her brother-in-law, James Young, and his daughter, Anna, and her husband, Dr. William Smith, were strongly on the side of America. Then again, a large majority of her nearest and dearest friends were also on the same side (as may be observed by the names on her petition to the Assembly), and they never doubted her sincerity to the cause. It is said that while the army lay encamped at Whitemarsh, and badly off for clothing from the increasing cold weather, she conveyed to them at several times linen and other materials of her own raising and manufacture to be distributed among the most needy, and that Washington, in consequence, had sent her letters of thanks which her friends stated that they had seen. It is a current tradition that at that time the commander-in-chief came to the Park and remained there overnight, the camp being about six miles distant, where the army lay from October 21st to December 11, 1777, a period of about seven weeks.

On the evacuation of Philadelphia, her husband, H. Hugh Ferguson, followed the retreating army to New York, and while there Mrs. Ferguson made a pathetic application to the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, November 28, 1778, for permission to go there, take leave of him and return, which that body refused to grant. On this subject, her niece, Anna Young Smith, wrote to her from Allentown, while the British had possession of Philadelphia,—

"I heard of the pathetic letter you wrote him in order to draw him off from British connections. I can truly say my heart bleeds for you

to have Mr. Ferguson, after an absence of two years, not able to get to his own house, and both of you, I would suppose, conscientiously attached to opposite sides. Oh, my dear Aunt, I see you are completely wretched, who had but a few months ago an independent fortune, and blest with superior talents and uncommon virtues."

In the summer of 1784 she received a letter from Mr. Ferguson, in London, imploring a remittance to relieve his distressed condition, to which it appears she responded. Her nephew, John Young, wrote to her from London, July 9, 1789, that "it would afford me a signal gratification to know that you were either unconditionally reconciled to your husband, or that you had reconciled your mind to the loss of him, for I much fear that it must at last be reduced to this dilemma." It is supposed the last information received concerning him was in October, 1793, when she learned that he had entered the army and gone to Flanders. The subject of his absence, it appears, preyed greatly on her mind. Even in her writings a memorandum is found, dated February 26, 1800, only a year before her death, in which she states that "every event of my marriage and all that relates to my husband is as recent in my memory as though it had occurred but yesterday. Though strange, out of twenty-eight years I lived but two and a half with him, and the period of separation exceeds that of the celebrated Ulysses and Penelope. I know not now whether he is among the dead or the living." The celebrated philosopher, Adam Ferguson, who was a native of Perthshire, and secretary to the British Commission spoken of, it is stated was a relative. Dr. Rush is in error in regard to his name; it is signed "H. Hugh Fergusson" in the records of the Hatboro' Library and also in the Bradford Papers of the Historical Society, where several communications may be seen written and signed by him as commissary of prisoners. Mrs. Ferguson also invariably used two s's in her name, but it has become now so established that we have concluded to follow the custom.

Says Dr. Rush,—

"Mrs. Ferguson passed the interval between the year 1775 and the time of her death chiefly in the country, upon her farm, in reading and in the different branches of domestic industry. A female friend who had been the companion of her youth, and whose mind was congenial to her own, united her destiny with hers, and soothed her various distresses by all the kind and affectionate offices which friendship and sympathy could dictate. In her retirement she was eminently useful. The doors of the cottages that were in her neighborhood bore the marks of her footsteps, which were always accompanied or followed with clothing, provisions and medicines to relieve the nakedness, hunger or sickness of their inhabitants. During the time General Howe had possession of Philadelphia she sent a quantity of linen into the city, spun with her own hands, and directed it to be made into shirts for the benefit of the American prisoners that were taken at the battle of Germantown. Upon hearing, in one of her visits to Philadelphia, that a merchant once affluent in his circumstances was suddenly thrown into jail by his creditors, and was suffering from the want of many of the usual comforts of his life, she sent him a bed, and afterwards procured admission into his apartment, and put twenty dollars into his hands. He asked for the name of his benefactress. She refused to make herself known to him, and suddenly left him. This humane and charitable act would not have been made known had not the gentleman's description of her person and dress discovered it. Many such secret acts of charity, exercised at the expense of her personal and habitual comforts, might be mentioned."

The Hon. Elias Boudinot, president of Congress,

on signing the preliminary treaty of peace with Great Britain, forwarded a letter on the subject of Mrs. Ferguson, in which he mentioned that General Washington was highly pleased on the result. A reply was returned from Græme Park, April 17, 1783, in which she said,—

"Is it not hard, my dear friend, that with a heart formed for urbanity and convivial cheerfulness, on this occasion particularly, I should from all extraordinary combinations of perplexed circumstances remain in total obscurity, but I am a poor, selfish creature, and if I adhere to the truth, must declare that amidst all these important events my own prospects and situation haunt my view, and at present nothing can draw me from this retreat, for my peace is so wounded, for I feel as though I could never come out of the shade. Dear Betsy Stedman joins in warm felicitations on this great event."

Margaret Stedman wrote to Mrs. Ferguson from Philadelphia, September 9, 1785, in which she desired her to "accept a heart replete with gratitude for the invitation contained in your last favor, and doubt not my sincerity when I assure you I ever esteemed and honored your society as one of the most pleasurable circumstances of my life, and much am I indebted to the balmy air of Græme Park, never being blessed with a greater sense of health than during my three years' residence there."

The Union Library of Hatboro' was founded in 1755, to which Dr. Græme, as has been stated, presented an early donation of books. To this institution we find from its minutes that his daughter, Mrs. Ferguson, was also a liberal contributor. In May, 1763, she presented her first gift of books, for which she received the thanks of the directors, followed by further gifts in 1773, 1783, 1794 and 1798, making in all at least seventy-three volumes, some of which were quartos. It is also known that she presented, at various times, works to the Montgomery Library, in Gwynedd, and to the one in Philadelphia.

Respecting Mrs. Ferguson's literary pursuits, her nephew, John Young, wrote from the city, March 22, 1775,—

"You have all the advantages that any poet can wish; for the season of Poetry is fast approaching, and everything about you contributes to inspire it, so that you have nothing to do but to invoke the Muses and begin tosing. As for the scene, I am sure Græme Park may vie with Arcadia; for poetry may easily convert Neshaminy into Helicon, the meadows into Tempe, and the new park into Parnassus, so that I shall certainly expect to see something of the Pastoral kind in the next magazine."

Little did the youthful and sanguine writer then imagine what was so very near at hand, the dawn of a revolution to dispel this glorious illusion, and send him and Mr. Ferguson soon and forever in exile, and that on the ruins of the colonial system of government should be founded here a great and independent republic.

As to her literary qualifications, Dr. Rush thus expressed himself,—

"I have said that Mrs. Ferguson possessed a talent for poetry. Some of those verses have been published, and many of them are in the hands of her friends. They discover a vigorous poetical imagination. Her prose writings indicate strong marks of genius, taste and knowledge. Nothing that came from her pen was common. Even her hasty notes

to her friends placed the most trivial subjects in such a new and agreeable light as not only secured them from destruction, but gave them a durable place among the most precious fragments of fancy and sentiment."

The Rev. Nathaniel Evans, who returned from England with Mrs. Ferguson, was a native of Philadelphia and a poet of some merit. In the spring of 1766 he spent several weeks at Græme Park, with the view of benefiting his declining health, on which occasion he produced a beautiful "Ode" relative to the place, which is given elsewhere in this work. He was admitted into orders by Dr. Terrick, bishop of London, who expressed great satisfaction on his examination. He received the charge of the churches at Gloucester and Colestown, N. J., where he died October 29, 1767, in the twenty-sixth year of his age, and at his particular request was interred at Christ Church. Rev. Dr. Smith collected his poetical effusions and had them published in Philadelphia in 1772, in an octavo volume of one hundred and sixty pages, entitled "Poems on Several Occasions, with some other Compositions." In this collection are included several parodies and witty poems by Miss Græme, under the *nom de plume* of Laura. It also contains, by the same, a poem of forty-six lines on his death, in which she calls him "a dutiful and only son of aged and affectionate parents."

In his contribution on the "Early Poets and Poetry of Pennsylvania," by Joshua Francis Fisher ("Memoirs of Historical Society," vol. ii., 1827), he pays a compliment to the poems of Mr. Evans, and introduces a notice of Mrs. Ferguson, from which we take this extract,—

"At her father's house she was surrounded by the most refined and literary society in America, and both here and in England she enjoyed the intimacy and gained the admiration of some of the most accomplished scholars and wits of the age. Her journal of travels, her letters and many other of her prose compositions were admired for their vivacity and elegance; and her poems, among which is to be found a translation of Telemachus into English verse. Never did a poet possess a reader pen than Mrs. Ferguson. She wrote on every occasion, and on almost every subject, and if the publication of her manuscripts were called for, I have no doubt that a volume might be easily collected. Mrs. Ferguson is said to have been a lady of fine talents, of refined delicacy, exquisite sensibility and romantic generosity; several of her friends are still living who remember with delight her noble disposition, her agreeable conversation and her amusing eccentricities."

Dr. Rush is in error in regard to Mrs. Ferguson's annual income, which he states to have been one hundred and sixty dollars. In an examination of her personal papers we find that, after the sale of her estate to Dr. Smith, she made arrangements with John Nicholson, who, in July, 1793, agreed to pay her annually on her investments, which, at her request, was transferred to George Meade, who obligated himself during her lifetime to pay unto her the annual sum of two hundred dollars. It appears, also, that she drew some income from Elias Boudinot, but whether from another amount or from a transfer we are unable to state. However, we wonder with others how she could have been enabled to spend as much in charity, which Dr. Rush suggests was "exercised at the ex-

pense of her personal and habitual comforts." But she possessed the prudence to limit her expenses according to her resources.

At what exact time Mrs. Ferguson left the park we have not been enabled to learn, but it was probably about 1797, when, with her companion, Miss Stedman, she removed to the comfortable home of Seneca Lukens, a well-to-do farmer, who resided about two miles distant on the main road leading to Philadelphia. From her correspondence we infer that she suffered from an internal ailment for many years, which, towards the last, was accompanied with great and protracted pain. She died February 23, 1801, aged sixty years and twenty days. Agreeably to her request, she was interred by the side of her parents in the inclosure of Christ Church, Philadelphia. The epitaph on her reads:

"Elizabeth Ferguson, the true sympathizer with the afflicted; daughter of Thomas and Ann Græme, wife of Hugh Henry Ferguson.—1801. Eliza caused this stone to be laid, waits with resignation and humble hope for reunion with her friend in a more perfect state of existence."

We observe here that Mr. Ferguson's given name has been reversed; in all his autographs it is invariably written as has been stated.

Joseph Lukens, son of Seneca, informed us, in 1855, that he very well remembered Mrs. Ferguson; that she was a woman of extraordinary conversational powers and a great pedestrian, even down nearly to the close of her life, frequently walking on foot to Philadelphia, a distance of eighteen miles; that she was unusually kind-hearted and charitable. Mrs. Martha Paul stated, in 1850, that she had frequently seen Mrs. Ferguson going through the Willow Grove on foot to Philadelphia, and also thus returning to her Horsham home; that in the latter part of her life she was much given to attending funerals throughout her neighborhood. David Lloyd, the author, mentions having several times seen Mrs. Ferguson, while at Seneca Lukens', sitting beneath the trees reading a book; that she was of medium size, but slender and delicate in form; thinks she possessed the most intelligent and expressive eyes he ever beheld in a female; that she was generally known throughout that section as "Lady Ferguson." On asking him the reason for being so called he said it was owing to her having been called so by George III., and also as the granddaughter of Lady Keith.

Eliza Stedman, so long the devoted friend and companion of Mrs. Ferguson, was a niece of Charles Stedman, who had married Ann, daughter of Dr. Græme, in 1749. She was a native of Holstein, Denmark, and her uncle, Stedman, who was a captain of a vessel sailing to Philadelphia, on his settling there after his marriage, came thus to bring thither the young lady, who was an orphan. Her letters denote that she had received an excellent education, and the penmanship was such as few can surpass it at this day. She was probably about ten years younger than Mrs. Ferguson, and much more robust. From her corre-

spondence we learn that she was an occasional visitor at Græme Park in 1764, if not some time earlier. Her uncle, Charles Stedman, died in Philadelphia September 28, 1874, aged seventy-one years. On the death of Mrs. Ferguson, near Græme Park, in 1801, she removed to Philadelphia, and died at the house of Samuel F. Smith, about the year 1825, at an advanced age. Mrs. Ferguson, in one of her poems written in 1789, thus refers to her companion,—

"One female friend alone was left,—
Then dare sad Laura still repine
If one bright jewel still is mine;
My Stella, partner of my hours
Whom no misanthropy devours."

MRS. ANNA YOUNG SMITH.—James Young, the father of Anna, we have presumed, was a native of Scotland, but he must have arrived here early in life. He was a merchant of Philadelphia, and was married, about 1754 or the following year, to Jane, the eldest daughter of Dr. Græme, born April 27, 1727. The correspondence of this gentleman denotes that he must have received an excellent education. During the French and Indian war he held several positions under the colonial government; among these was captain, commissary of musters and paymaster; for the faithful performance of these duties he received the thanks of the proprietary, Thomas Penn, in 1758. On the breaking out of the Revolution he became an early and ardent patriot. Near the close of 1776 he was appointed one of the justices of the peace for the city, and the following June 11th one of the judges of the court.

With Colonel John Bayard, he was appointed by the Supreme Executive Council, November 28, 1777, to visit the Pennsylvania troops encamped at Valley Forge, and report on the condition of their clothing. This interesting document may be seen in the Pennsylvania Archives (vol. vi. p. 74), wherein they state that they had conferred with General Washington on the subject, and that General Wayne had the soldiers paraded for their inspection, "but could not discover that they were in a worse condition than the army in general." There is no doubt that Mr. Young would have risen to a conspicuous position in these trying times if it would not have been for his declining health, which became so impaired that he died January 28, 1779, at the age of fifty years. His remains were interred in Christ Churchyard beside those of his wife, who had preceded him in 1759, at the early age of thirty years. Owing to his regard for his motherless children, Mr. Young was in the practice for many years of spending a portion of his time at Græme Parke, and was thus induced to become a member of the Hatboro' Library, November 1, 1760, which he retained for the benefit of himself and children for thirteen years.

Mr. Young had four children, of whom two died in infancy. Of these, Anna, the subject of this notice, was the oldest, and was born in Dr. Græme's house, in

Fourth Street, Philadelphia, November 5, 1756, and in less than two years and three months thereafter lost her mother. It was owing to this circumstance that her early training was chiefly confided to her aunt, and thus she became a long and intimate resident of Græme Park. On this matter Dr. Rush stated that Mrs. Ferguson "had no children, but she now faithfully performed all the duties of that relation to the son and daughter of one of her sisters, who committed them to her care on her death-bed. The mind of her niece was an elegant impression of her own." Mr. Young wrote in 1765 that "Anna," then aged eight and a half years, "grows more and more like her dear mamma in every respect, and that is saying as much as I could wish."

A few months after the death of her grandfather Miss Young, then in her sixteenth year, left Græme Park to reside with her father in the city, on which occasion, under date of November 24, 1772, she sent an affecting letter to her aunt, from which we take an extract,—

"I would wish to tell you the grateful sense I have received of your kindness to me; when I look back on the last six years of my life, I feel oppressed with your goodness to me. You took me at an age totally incapable of giving you pleasure, too old to divert you with innocent amusement in the prattling way, and too young to be company to you. Over my growing reason you watched with patient care, and instructed me both by your precepts and example in the practice of every virtue and now that I am of an age to know and return your tenderness I must leave you without any other recompense for your goodness but the testimony of your own heart; however, it shall be my study in my future conduct in life to show that your goodness has not been thrown away upon me. I feel the deepest regret at leaving a place where I have spent the most careless, and I fear, the most happy part of my life. I was always fond of the country, but to Græme Park I was more particularly attached, and I must now take my leave of it, and though I may sometimes visit it, it will never again be my delightful home. May you, my dear aunt, possess health and every blessing in this world, and may Mr. Ferguson, when he crosses the Atlantic, more than return all the love you have for him; may he unite in one all the endearing characters of father, husband and friend. May this be your portion here and eternal happiness hereafter is the sincere wish of your grateful and affectionate niece."

Before the early age of fourteen Miss Young had written an "Ode to Gratitude," wherein she exhibits her regards to her aunt for her long devoted tenderness and care.

A strong attachment having been formed between Miss Young and Dr. William Smith, a native of the city, the parties were married at Græme Park November 30, 1775, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Dr. Richard Peters, rector of Christ Church. Mr. Smith had graduated in the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1771, and subsequently became an extensive druggist under the firm of Lehman & Smith. Being an ardent patriot, just before the entry of the British army into Philadelphia he conveyed, for their greater security, his wife and children to Bethlehem, where they remained until their departure. On his return he found considerable damage had been done to his property, particularly to his furniture and medicines, which they had either used or wantonly destroyed.

On the birth of her first child Mrs. Smith wrote from the city in September, 1776,—

"Now I have got my dear little girl, I want her to pay her respects to her grand aunt, but I do not hope for that pleasure till the 30th of November, the anniversary of my marriage, when I hope to be at the spot that made me happy, to claim my fitch of bacon, unless I should have the happiness of seeing you in town before."

In regard to the fitch of bacon, reference is here meant to an old custom respecting happy marriages, described in Nos. 607 and 608 of Addison's *Spectator*.

Anna Young Smith, who was of a naturally delicate constitution, died March 22, 1780, at the early age of twenty-three years and nearly five months, which was a sad bereavement to her affectionate husband. Dr. Smith, on the following 23d of June, thus wrote to Mrs. Ferguson,—

"I am at present engaged in collecting the few little performances in the poetical way my dear Anna has left behind her, and many a stray sigh does it cost me. I think I see and hear in every line that heavenly look and voice that so lately charmed me. Alas! Madam, when I reflect on the extraordinary worth of that most amiable of women, and that she once constituted my soul's happiness, my heart dies within me at the thought of having lost her, and I am often amazed how I can possibly sustain the dreadful shock; but we know not what we can bear till we are put to the test. But why do I dwell on this mournful theme? Your own good heart, which can so keenly feel another's woe, will, I know, excuse me. I must at last bring myself to submit in humble silence to the severe blow, and heaven alone can witness my feelings and mournful recollections."

For her only daughter, then aged about three and a half years, Mrs. Ferguson, in June, 1789, prepared an interesting selection of her poems in a manuscript volume of four hundred and seventy-six pages, in the preface of which she says,—

"My dear Anna Smith, as this will fall into your hands when, perhaps, I shall be in my silent grave, do not think that I transcribe this from mere vanity. No, it is by no means an essential part of a female character to write verses; though I do not think it, on the other, that it is to be ridiculed. Writing and love of books, I can speak from experience, is a happy resource for the evening of life, when the more active scenes either slide from us or we from them. Virtuous sentiments, however brought into action, whether we fill a wide or narrow circle, is worth them all. I write in solitude and with my spectacles on."

As has been mentioned, Dr. Smith, in the spring of 1791, purchased of Mrs. Ferguson the Græme Park estate, which he retained until the year 1801. The loss of his wife and family alone induced him to part with it, to the great reluctance, no doubt, of both himself and Mrs. Ferguson, with whom a warm friendship had so long existed. He was a highly-respected and successful business man, and survived until May 20, 1822, aged seventy-six years. He had three children,—Ann, Thomas Græme and Samuel F. Smith. The latter was born March 16, 1780, only six days before the death of his mother. He also became a successful merchant of Philadelphia, and married Ellen, daughter of John Mark, of Fredericksburg, Va., October 27, 1806. He was long a director of the Philadelphia Bank, and for some time its president, retiring from it in 1852. Mr. Smith resided at No. 1411 Walnut Street, and the writer, in 1856, was kindly permitted access to the many family papers in his possession, from which copious extracts were made.

As will be observed, he was a great-grandson of Dr. Græme, of whom there are now (1884) numerous descendants in the country. The daughter, Anna Smith, according to Dr. Rush, died in 1808, aged thirty-two years, of whom he mentions "exhibiting to a numerous and affectionate circle of acquaintances, a rare instance of splendid talents and virtues, descending unimpaired through four successive generations."

Respecting the poetical performances of Mrs. Anna Young Smith, we must say that they will compare favorably with any other writer of that period. A portion was published, after her death, in the *Columbian Magazine*. Several of the pieces were reprinted and became deservedly popular, as the "Ode to Liberty," "Elegy to the Volunteers who fell at Lexington," "Lines to the Memory of Warren," "Walk in the Churchyard at Wicaco" and "Lines in Praise of Wedlock." Besides the aforesaid, she left other pieces in manuscript, among which we would name "Ode to Gratitude," "True Wit," "Lines on Dr. Swift," "Epistle to Damon," "Sylvia's Song to Damon," and "Lines on the Death of Dr. Græme." In the article on "Early Poetry," in this work, we have given several of her contributions.

JOHN YOUNG, the son of James and Jane Young and grandson of Dr. Græme, was born in Philadelphia November 6, 1757. His mother having died when he was but little over two years old, he was, not long afterwards, consigned, with his sister, to the care of his aunt at Græme Park, where he received most of his education. Dr. Rush thus speaks of Mrs. Ferguson and his early training: "Her nephew, John Young, became, under her direction, an accomplished scholar and gentleman." When Mrs. Ferguson was in England his father wrote from the city, April 3, 1765: "John is really a good and fine boy,—learns fast and loves the Academy." He was at that time only about seven and a half years old, but this would indicate that he had already made some progress in his studies.

From a letter he wrote to his aunt near the beginning of 1774, he states that the reason he did not come to see her when last in the city was because she

"lodged at Mr. Stedman's, a house my father has laid his commands on me never to enter; his reason I know not. I received the presents from you through the hands of my sister with pleasure and gratitude, particularly the pocket-book as a memento of my good grandfather, and shall rank them among the innumerable obligations I have received from your hands. My situation is very different to what it was with you; I am apprentice to Mr. Carmack, who treats me very kindly, but has very little business. Nevertheless I am seldom idle, but divert my leisure hours with books. Since I have been with him I have read the histories of England, Charles the Fifth and Buchanan and Robertson's Scotland."

On July 15th he wrote,—

You were right, for I was affected at the death of Mr. Carmack, who was seized about six in the morning with an apoplectic fit and expired at eleven in the night."

It appears he was engaged with him to learn the dry-goods business.

He wrote to his aunt, August 10th,—

"I think myself very lucky in getting a place. I am with Messrs. John

and Peter Chevalier, who are in the shipping business, and shall here get an insight into both branches of business. I like it much better than the other; there is much more variety and exercise."

On December 1st,—

"I sincerely thank you for your good advice and your groundless fears for my falling into vice. I call them groundless, because you must certainly know that I have it not in my power to enjoy the pleasures of this world, be my inclinations ever so great, for I have not the Philosopher's stone to procure them, and as for company, I keep very little, till I can afford to maintain the appearance of a gentleman."

Washington had been appointed, in Philadelphia, by Congress, June 14, 1775, commander-in-chief of the American army, respecting whom Mr. Young made an interesting and complimentary allusion, dated the following July 1st,—

"I beg you will return my compliments to Mr. Ferguson, and tell him I am extremely obliged to him for his present of the book, which I accept with pleasure. I sincerely wish the autumn was arrived, that we may gather in the fruits of our glorious toils: but as the laurel is an evergreen we may obtain it at all seasons. I dare engage our noble General will soon nod under a whole grove of it. I think it is happy for America that the person promoted to that high dignity has always borne the character of a man of honor, and is remarkable for his honesty and integrity; for he certainly has it as much in his power to raise himself on the ruins of his country as old Oliver."

Little did this young man fancy the troubles that were now so rapidly approaching, and of whose dire effects he should also receive his share. We have mentioned how his father, James Young, from the very beginning of the contest, had ardently espoused the patriot cause; but not so his son, then aged but little over eighteen. It appears that on the 24th of January, 1776, he fled from his home in the city, with a Mr. Baynton, to New York, where Governor Tryon recommended him to Sir William Howe for a commission in the army. The result was that he was placed on board the "Phoenix" ship-of-war and shortly after taken a prisoner by the Americans. His father, on learning this, petitioned to Congress, March 23d, that he be permitted, on his parole, to reside on the estate of his late grandfather, at Græme Park, on condition that he remain there and confine himself within a distance of six miles of the same, which was granted him. We know that he was still there in the following September, but it is probable that he fled a second time to the British while they held the city or shortly afterwards, for he was charged, with a number of others, with high treason April 10, 1779.

What services Mr. Young engaged in to aid the British cause we are unable to state, but he was reported as having purchased a lieutenancy, in 1780, in the Forty-second Foot, and that he was in the Sixtieth in 1787. It would appear from the information derived from him in the fall of 1785, he had made application as a loyalist to the government for losses incurred in the American war, but without success. From a letter he sent to his aunt, dated London, October 4, 1787, it appears that he had suffered from remorse. He stated therein,—

"I went to bed with these meditations, and in the midnight hour the spectre of Poverty drew my curtains, and stared at me with such an aspect as frightened away my philosophy. In this temper I arose in the morning and carried in my name to the War-Office as one who was

desirous of serving again, and was yesterday informed that I was appointed to my old regiment in one of the additional companies to be raised. As soon, then, as war is determined on I shall be sent to the most remote and dreary corner on the Island, in the most dreary season of the year, among people with whom I had been long enough associated to dislike to commence again an employment which I had practiced long enough to be sated with, by raising men in the service of a country for which I have no particular affection. I have been the instrument of injustice without compunction, but now I have not even a prejudice to keep me in favor with myself. With such sentiments, to become a journeyman, with penurious wages, in the trade of blood, is to become a character that a galley slave would not contemplate with envy, for I have his reluctance without having his consolation."

In July, 1789, Lieutenant Young again wrote to Mrs. Ferguson, mentioning that he had only recently recovered from a paralytic stroke; that his physician had advised him to seek a warmer climate, and he was therefore going to Provence or Languedoc. As the revolution in France was then showing symptoms of approaching troubles, he says, in relation to his journey, that he meant to return in a ship in the spring from Marseilles, unless "I should be detained by the commotions of the country. If there should be a civil war, I shall join the people, that I may atone in some measure for the offences against the rights of mankind in my former conduct." He mentioned having written an article on "Aristotle's Poetics" in the late *European Magazine*, and meant on his return to apply himself to translation as the most profitable department in letters.

At what exact time Lieutenant Young returned to London we are unable to state, but he forwarded an interesting letter from thence to his aunt, July 7, 1790, wherein he remarked,—

"During my residence in France, I had an opportunity of witnessing the regeneration of a great empire. An awful and edifying spectacle, indeed! and in the history of mankind unexampled in the nature and efficacy of its means. Twenty-four millions rising with one accord, to tramp on regal, aristocratic and ecclesiastical tyranny, under which they had been crushed for fifteen ages! However, I hope the people of France will follow the example of the Americans yet further, and reform the constitution made on the spur of the occasion. Paris and London strike me as being no less dissimilar in their external appearance than in the deportment of their respective inhabitants. Paris abounds in more noble edifices; many in such a chaste correct taste as would have done honor to the city of Minerva in the purest ages of the arts. Its public libraries and cabinets are splendid beyond comparison. Its charitable institutions are upon a grand scale, but appear to me to have a tendency to increase the evils they were intended to alleviate. Its quays have an aspect noble and pleasing, without being polluted with a cask or a bale, while its streets are narrow and ill-paved and no foot-walk for foot-passengers, as in London. Add to this an accumulation of filth, removed only once a week.

"The furniture of their houses is correspondent in a like degree of contradiction. Damask curtains and chairs, in most splendid apartments, without a carpet or table of better materials than oak or deal. In all manufactures which have usefulness for their object, their specimens put beside English work appear like rude essays of barbarians. They excel us, however, in some of the mechanic arts, and these have a tendency to mark the different geniuses of the two nations. The manufactures in which they have no competitors are paper-hangings, tapestry, plate-glass, embroidery and the richest silks; nor does it require sagacity to discover an analogy between the arts and genius, habits and manners of thinking, of the people. Now that the aristocracy is abolished, and the exertion of every individual may be directed to the public good, we shall see whether or not they be capable of that degree of industry or application which have produced such wonderful effects among their neighbors. I had almost forgot to tell you that when I was at Versailles I saw the queen and royal family. The queen was a fine woman,

but with a countenance so clouded with disappointed pride and humbled ambition that I thought Milton himself must have had some such idea for the prototype of Satan, before he had lost all his original brightness. I was much gratified by having an opportunity of inspecting the remains of Roman greatness, which still exist in Tours, Vienna, Orange, Carpentras, Nismes, etc., some of which are built without cement, and are as perfect at this day as when first erected."

These extracts are calculated to impress one with the literary abilities of the author.

As mentioned, Lieutenant Young did enter into the work of translation, which was the "Compendium of Ancient Geography by Monsieur D'Anville," from the French, which was published in London in 1792, in two octavo volumes, together containing eight hundred and forty-eight pages. The translator's preface contains fourteen pages, and is an able and profound production. It contains several finely-executed maps. This translation at that time, by a young American, was certainly no ordinary undertaking, and appears to have been satisfactorily accomplished. Mrs. Ferguson presented a copy, March 22, 1798, to the Hatboro' Library, "as a mark of her regard to that institution," and also one to the Philadelphia Library.

John Young died in London, April 25, 1794, aged but little over thirty-six years and six months, and was interred at "St. Martin's-in-the-Fields," where Mrs. Ferguson had a tombstone erected with the following lines:

"Far distant from the soil where thy last breath
Seal'd the sad measure of their various woes,
One female friend laments thy mournful death,
Yet why lament what only gave repose?"

In the *Philadelphia Daily Advertiser* of July 29, 1794, appeared the following from the friendly pen of Dr. Rush:

"By letters from London we learn that John Young, Esq., died in that city on the 25th of April last. Philadelphia gave birth to that extraordinary young man. He was grandson to the late worthy Dr. Thomas Graeme and educated under his immediate direction. In literary attainments he had few equals; his translation of 'Ancient Geography,' published originally in French, will long continue a monument of his singular taste and classical erudition."

ADDITIONAL RESPECTING GRAEME PARK.—Before we leave this interesting subject a few more facts may be given. Having ascertained from our neighbor, Joseph Lukens, the son of Seneca, where Mrs. Ferguson died, that the old vane that Sir William Keith had placed on one of his buildings was still in existence, we sought it up and made a drawing thereof in October, 1855. It was then in possession of Hugh Foulke, of Gwynedd, who informed us that he had purchased it, with a lot of old iron, at the sale of Seneca Lukens, deceased, in 1829. It was made of wrought-iron, thirty-eight inches in length. The part bearing "W. K., 1722," which was seventeen inches in length, was cut out in it after the manner of a stencil. At the lower part was a screw, with which it might be secured to its place. Governor Keith's coat-of-arms was found on several documents, to which his seal was affixed, one of which was relative

to the contract with John Kirk for building his mansion-house at the park, dated December 12, 1721, the original having been presented to us, in 1860, by an antiquarian friend a short time before his decease.



ANCIENT VANE OF GRÆME PARK.

At Samuel F. Smith's, the grand-nephew of Mrs. Ferguson, was shown the Græme coat-of-arms worked in various-colored silk about two feet square, which the latter had made shortly after her return from Great Britain, designed from a family book-plate in the presentation volumes given by her cousin, Thomas Græme, Esq., of Balgowan. Mrs. Ferguson's family



SIR WILLIAM KEITH'S SEAL AND COAT OF ARMS, 1721.

Bible came in possession of Mrs. H. C. Turnbull, near Baltimore, daughter of Samuel F. Smith, which was shown at her house in 1856. It is a quarto, elegantly bound in red morocco, gilt edges, printed at Oxford in 1733. From it was obtained the Græme family record of births, marriages and deaths, and also copies of the original portraits in oil, life-size, that had once been at Græme Park. Mrs. S. F. Smith showed divers articles of interest that had been in the possession of the Græme family and Mrs. Ferguson, as miniatures, locketts, hair-work, bracelets, fans, silver-ware and silk dresses. The latter were very fine, the material having been brought by Captain Stedman from China before 1760. An interesting object was a family tree composed of hair within a glass, surrounded with rubies, all set in a case of gold, which was worn by Mrs. Ferguson as a breastpin. Its form was oval, one by one and a half inches in size. On its back was engraved: "The hair of Lady Ann

Keith, Ann Græme, Ann Stedman and Jane Young. For E. Græme, 1766."

After Dr. Græme became the sole owner of the estate, in 1739, he formed here a gallery of paintings after the manner of the nobility in Europe. Among these were life-size portraits of Dr. Græme, Mrs. Græme, Jane Young, Ann Stedman, two of Mrs. Ferguson in early life and four of Græme Park and its surroundings, representing the four seasons; the names of the others we have been unable to ascertain. Mr. H. C. Turnbull's mansion was destroyed by fire in 1847, but fortunately nearly all the aforesaid portraits were saved. A copy of the summer view of Græme Park has been secured, which now possesses considerable interest. From Mrs. Ferguson's portraits we are enabled to judge about the time when these paintings were made, as in the latest one she is not quite full-grown, and it was therefore probably done before 1754. Professor Samuel Jackson and Mrs. Susan Eckhart, of Philadelphia, informed us in 1853 that in early life they remembered seeing those paintings in the main hall at Græme Park, which was about 1782, during the ownership and residence there of Mrs. Ferguson.

To the great credit of the Penrose family, they have taken good care of the venerable mansion, now one of the very few baronial halls existing in this country. It is a substantial stone building, in good preservation, and not occupied, with walls two feet thick and in dimensions sixty by twenty-five feet. The main or drawing-room, at the north end, is twenty-one feet square, and its walls are handsomely wainscotted and paneled from the floor to the ceiling, a height of fourteen feet. The fire-place is adorned with marble brought from England, and those of the other rooms with Dutch tile-plates, after the fashion of that day. Above the mantel of the drawing-room is said to have been a panel bearing the Keith coat-of-arms, which, of course, has been long removed for a plainer substitute. In the fire-place of one of the second-story rooms is a cast-iron plate bearing the date of 1728. The stairs and balusters are extremely substantial and built of solid white-oak, as are also the joists, rafters and window-frames. Each of its three stories are respectively divided into three rooms, finished with mouldings on the ceilings. In front of the house, on the wall, near the roof, forty years ago could be seen the remains of ivy that had evidently been dead for many years. On the wall of the south end is a vigorously-growing trumpet-flower, which is said to be the shoot of the original that grew there in Mrs. Ferguson's infancy. As we gazed on it, we thought of that beautiful couplet in her "Spinning Song,"—

"When storms rage the forest, and mighty trees fall,
The low shrub is shelter'd that clings to the wall."

In the rear of the house is a fish-pond fed from a fine spring of water; just beyond it still stands a "little grove by the milk-house," as mentioned by

Miss Stedman in May, 1765. From the existing view of Græme Park before 1755 and the draft of the estate made for Lady Keith by William Parsons about 1736, the tenant-houses and stabling are denoted standing west of the mansion, pretty well towards the branch of the Neshaminy, which flows here in a northerly course. Two vigorous sycamore trees stand directly in front of the house at the distance of about forty yards, which, at two feet from the ground, now measure respectively eleven and twelve feet in circumference, and denote the principal place of approach to

"A WOMAN'S MEDITATIONS ON HER OLD FAMILY CLOCK."¹

"BY MRS. ELIZABETH FERGUSON.

"It is midnight! the inhabitants where I now reside are all locked in sleep, I am all alone with pen, ink and paper before me, and all things around conspire to aid my musing melancholy. The clock in the parlor where I am has just struck twelve. That identical clock has been in the family of my parents and myself above seventy years, and has been a true announcer of fleeting time. I am myself this present year (1797) on the verge of sixty. What various sensations have the sounds of that clock's stroke raised in the bosoms of my parents, brothers, sisters and my own in a course of years! Three-fourths of a century since it first moved in our house!

"Let me in this silent pause try to retrace some of the effects the sound of this clock has produced on my spirits almost commensurate with



Copied from the original in 1854, by Wm. J. Buck.

GRÆME PARK.

From an old painting, supposed date about 1755.

the court-yard, where no doubt was once a gateway. While so long in the possession of the Keith and Græme family, especially during the colonial period, many distinguished visitors were entertained here, among whom can be mentioned Andrew Hamilton, Thomas and John Penn, Jeremiah Langhorne, Francis Hopkinson, Richard Stockton, Rev. Nathaniel Evans, Rev. William Smith, Benjamin Rush, Rev. Richard Peters, George Meade, Elias Boudinot and Bishop White. There is no doubt that many a gay party set out from those venerable walls in the days of the baronet in pursuit of deer, bear and turkeys that roamed yet wild in the forests, for the "twelve venison pots" mentioned here in 1726 are suggestive of such incidents.

any clear recollections of the past. How has my little heart beat when it announced eight, the hour destined to go to bed! How oft with my childish playmates, when keen for the protracting romp, has the dreaded knell stopped us short in full career, or, if permitted by an act of grace to encroach on a quarter of an hour beyond the limits, no entreaties could prevail to obtain a respite to hear the interdicted stroke of nine! When a year or two had advanced me in the juvenile stage, still eight was the well-known hour.

"I see in idea this moment the little round walnut table placed close by a clean hearth and clear hickory fire, my mother and sisters in rotation reading some moral story or dramatic piece, while my good father sat on the other side with his own small mahogany stand reading the paper of the day or some treatise on his own profession. Ah! how I

¹ This piece was copied from Mrs. Ferguson's manuscript over twenty-five years ago, and, it is believed, has never been heretofore published. It is an interesting scrap of family history, nearly all confined to the colonial period. It bears the date of April 21, 1797, only four years previous to her death, and while she resided at the house of Seneca Lukens.

feared the stroke of eight lest it might break the thread of the unfinished journal of the artless Pamela. Perhaps the clock struck in the middle of that excellent comedy, the 'Journey of London,' where humor and sentiment are so happily blended. 'Oh, mamma, do let me stay and hear whether Lady Townly repents and makes a good wife.' 'No, my child, you shall hear to-morrow; mamma says Betsy must go to bed.' Shut was the book and shut was the scene unless carried over in youthful dreams. Oh, if any cold-hearted critic should glance over this page and sneer at these digressions, let them hear and know that these are the recollections that make me for a moment forget my age till I reflect *I am left alone* to make these observations.

"Alas! at those sounds my sensations of pain or pleasure did not terminate with childhood. No, very far from it. How often have I longed to hear announced the hour for the family party, after my sisters had left my father's home for houses of their own! Nor was my heart bound up alone to connections; nearly equal was the pleasure when expecting to meet some kind, social friend, thy hand pointed when she must be near. How frequently has thy stroke summoned me to preside at the female station, the tea-table, where the conversation has changed in rotation, 'from grave to gay from gay to grave severe!' Ah! full well I remember when four strokes preluded the India regale; then we young people, becoming a little tonish, pleaded for the patrician hour of five; we were indulged, but five soon became a plebeian hour. Then my clock and its mistress changed our city for a rural abode, where seven and eight took the lead, until six remains to direct the coffee at the worthy gentlewoman's where I now live.

"Ah! since my clock and I have passed our days in retirement, how frequently, on the evening of a market-day, when expecting a letter from the metropolis filled with wit, sentiment or affection, or all united in one, have I with impatience numbered your strokes, or still more ardently longed for the epistle that had crossed the Atlantic, whose value was appreciated as danger and distance had endeared it to the longing receiver! The evening walk was directed by thee, the wholesome breakfast also, and, to be more serious, how frequently have you warned me to repair to the temple of divine worship! And, now retracing the various effects thy sounds have produced in my too susceptible heart through a long life would it not be a species of prudery to omit declaring what I well recollect that thy sounds to my ears acquired the softest tones when announcing the hours I was to meet my dear Henry before I met him at the altar, which is this day twenty-five years,—the fourth part of a century, a large portion of human existence. Yes, thy sounds seemed to change to persuasive ones when they preluded to Britain his departure.

"Ah! when I reflect that I am the sole surviving child of ten brothers and sisters, how does the idea fill my mind! to think what a series of tedious, weary nights must these parents and children have waked and watched through the long gallery of pain to death! Hoping and waiting with exhausted spirits these strokes that announced the pleasing harbinger of day. How many times the dear departed, venerable authors of my being have heard that clock which now strikes two give the sound that was to be no more repeated, while breath drew trembling in bodies dearer to you than your own; your children a part of yourselves! Since first your notion began, what volcanoes have flamed, what battles fought, what famines, pestilences and revolutions gone forth! You move, though your maker is no more; then be it known, he lived in London, in 1722, and named W. Tomlinson."

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

CHARLES S. RORER.

Charles S. Rorer is a son of the late Joseph Rorer, who was born in Philadelphia County, Pa., November 14, 1758, and died in the same county December 15, 1854. He was the son of a farmer, and was himself a farmer all his adult life. Having been born some eighteen years previous to the date of the declaration of Independence, he naturally felt quite an interest in the celebration of the formal declaration of such an undertaking as that then seemed to be, and took

an active part in the celebrating of that instrument on the 4th of July, 1776. Later, he was an eyewitness of the battle of Germantown, on the old York road, at a place known as Branchtown, and after the battle, assisted in the interment of several of the militia of the Maryland Line that had been killed in the battle, and previous to the close of that eventful struggle he was enrolled as a soldier in Washington's army, but it being so near the close of the struggle, was not permitted to aid in gaining the freedom of the young and struggling colonies.

In after-years, when the colonies had become States, and compacted into one strong bond of Union, never to be severed, it seemed to be a pleasure to him to relate to his listening auditors the many incidents and hairbreadth adventures that had come to his notice during those eventful years. He died at the ripe old age of ninety-six, honored and respected by all who knew him.

His son, Charles S. Rorer, who takes his middle name from his mother's maiden name, Smith, was born in Philadelphia County, Pa., April 14, 1811, and made that his home until 1851, when he removed to Horsesham, Montgomery Co., Pa., where he now resides. He was also born prior to the occurrence of several important events that transpired in the early part of the present century, in some of which he was an active participant. The first was upon the occasion of the visit of the Marquis De Lafayette to the city of Philadelphia, in 1824, when that hero was honored with a public reception. He also took part in the funeral ceremonies held in Germantown, in 1826, in commemoration of the death of two of our late Presidents, Thomas Jefferson and John Quincy Adams. He was also honored with a commission in the infantry in the parade that took place in Philadelphia in honor of George Washington's one hundredth birthday; also on the occasion of President Andrew Jackson's visit to Philadelphia, he participated in the parade as one of the escort and in the evening, at the reception given at the residence of General Robert Patterson, was an invited guest, and was personally introduced to the "Hero of New Orleans."

He witnessed the breaking of ground, not far from what is known as Turner's Lane, for the building of the Germantown and Norristown Railroad, which was built in 1832-33.

In 1837 he assisted in planting an elm-tree to commemorate the memory of the old treaty tree, at the Commissioners' Hall, Kensington.

In 1840 he led the forlorn hope of the Whig party as candidate for the State Legislature against a Democratic majority of three thousand in his district, and, as a result not unexpected, was defeated.

In 1849 he was elected one of the directors of the old Germantown Bank, and served as such until his removal to Montgomery County.

In 1864 he was the standard-bearer of the Republican party in his legislative district against the

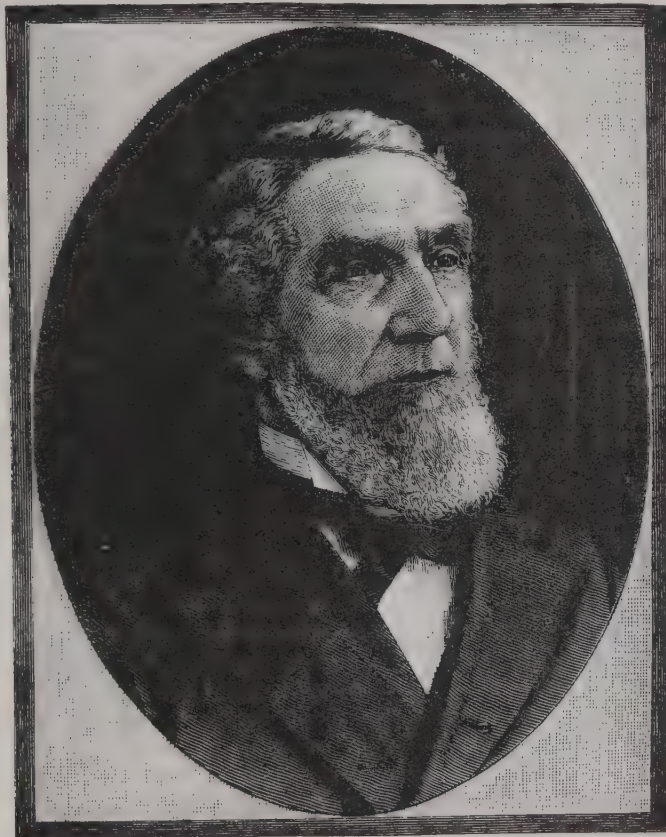
usual fifteen hundred Democratic majority, and again suffered defeat.

In 1874 he was elected one of the directors of the Hatboro' National Bank, which position he still holds.

He has for the last twenty-five years been honored by his townsmen with a seat in the public school board, over which he presided more than fifteen years, and to his energy and perseverance in behalf of the educational interest of Horsham township is due probably more than to any other, the efficiency and

being represented in their Grand Lodges of the State by Mr. Rorer.

During the four eventful years of the slave-holders rebellion Mr. Rorer was engaged in aiding the government in the suppression of the natural results of such a strife, and was active in forming a Union League for the township of Horsham, the object of which was to assist in filling the quotas as called for, and to encourage enlistments for the same, and in appointing and sustaining public meetings which had that object fully in view.



Charles L. Rorer

high character of the schools with which he has to do.

In 1875 he was elected a justice of the peace for Horsham township, a position he still holds.

Since he was twenty years of age he has been an active and energetic worker in the cause of temperance. Drinking liquor at that early period being the rule, it required organized effort to break up the habit. Societies and organizations multiplied under various names, first openly by lectures and the old Washingtonian Society, followed by the Sons of Temperance and Good Templars, the two latter organizations

He has, by much labor, brought his farm under a high state of cultivation, and made his home pleasant and attractive, and has thus far been unselfish in all the relations of his life where he could be useful to his fellow-creatures.

For the past forty-eight years he has been an active member of the Baptist Church, and since 1851 a member of the Hatboro' Baptist Church.

Mr. Rorer was married, in 1835, to Miss Caroline, daughter of the late Hugh Roberts, of Philadelphia. Their children are Clementine, married Albert

French; Bartlett T., married Emeline Williams; and Adelaide, married William Hill. Mrs. Rorer, mother of these children, died February 24, 1872.

Mr. Rorer's second wife was Miss Hannah, daughter of Thomas and Jerusha Taylor, of Philadelphia, whom he married June 17, 1875.

JOSHUA PAUL LUKENS.

The Lukens family in Horsham, Montgomery Co., descended from Jan (or John) Lucken, who came from Holland in the latter part of 1688. In 1709, January 10th, John Lucken purchased from Samuel

for many years resided at what is now known as Davis Grove, Montgomery Co., formerly known as the old "Kirk Tavern," on the old Philadelphia and Easton road.

At that place Seneca Lukens reared a family or children, one of whom was Joseph S. Lukens, born First Month 21, 1786, father of Joshua P. Lukens. This Joseph S. Lukens married Susan, daughter of Joshua Paul, of Bucks County, Pa., and had children as follows: Isaiah, born in 1816; Hannah, born Third Month 14, 1819 (now the wife of Lukens Paul); Joshua P., born May 30, 1822; Sidnea Ann, born in 1825; Jervis



J P Lukens

Carpenter five hundred and five acres of land, a part of which is now owned by William J. Hallowell, near Davis Grove, Montgomery Co., and in 1720, John and wife, Mary Lucken, sold to Peter Lucken one hundred and fifty acres of said five hundred and five acres.

Whether this Peter Lukens is a son of John or not is unknown. However, Peter and his wife, Gainor, deeded to John Lucken, Jr., a parcel of land out of the one hundred and fifty acres. The John Lucken first named (anglicised into Lukens) was, in all probability, the great-great-grandfather of Joshua P. Lukens, who is a grandson of Seneca Lukens, who

S., born in 1828, died First Month 21, 1861; Sarah, born in 1833, died Eighth Month 7, 1872.

Of these children, Joshua P. remained on the old homestead at Davis Grove until twenty-four years of age, performing such work as is usual for young men upon their father's farm. His educational advantages were such as were afforded in the old pay-schools of half a century ago, though, with his inclination to study, he obtained a good common-school education.

He has always been one of those quiet, unobtrusive, honest, industrious men, seeking not the honors of this world, but seeking, rather, the comforts of

home and the pleasant associations of his family. The many and devious ways of the politician he never sought, and has never held a political office. The beautiful farm upon which he resides came to him by inheritance through or from his father-in-law, Mr. Root. The large, comfortable and convenient buildings have been erected and the beautiful grounds laid out and shrubbery planted since he came in possession of the property, in November, 1851, making it one of the very desirable farm properties in Horsham township. The farm, containing eighty-five acres, is under a high state of cultivation, and is one of the most productive in the township.

record of the date of his birth or death). He married Sarah, daughter of Abel Roberts, of the same place. They had ten children, as follows: Abel, born in 1778; Gainor, 1780; William, 1782; Everard, 1784; Mary, 1787; Benjamin, 1791; Susanna, 1793; Samuel, 1796; Margaret, 1798; Morris, 1801. He purchased Græme Park property, and removed thereto in the year 1801. Sometime afterwards he purchased a farm in Warminster, Bucks Co. (which is now owned by Joshua Bennett), to which his son Benjamin moved. On the marriage of his son William (father of Jarrett) he sold him the Græme Park property and moved to the Warminster farm.



JARRETT PENROSE.

Mr. Lukens married, March 25, 1847, Elizabeth, daughter of Conard and Sarah Root, of Philadelphia, Pa.; she was born December 16, 1823. The result of this union has been three children, as follows: First, Joseph C. Lukens, born December 5, 1847, married, November 2, 1881, Miss Louisa Stanhope, of Philadelphia; second, Emma N., born February 4, 1851, married, March 23, 1882, to Edwin Moore, of Upper Merion township, Montgomery Co., Pa.; third, Missouri Florence, born March 12, 1855, died September 6, 1883.

JARRETT PENROSE.

Samuel Penrose, grandfather of Jarrett Penrose, was born at Quakertown, Bucks Co., Pa., (we have no

William Penrose, son of Samuel and Sarah, was born at Quakertown, Pa., March 14, 1782, and came to Horsham with his father in 1801. He married Hannah, daughter of William and Ann Jarrett, of Horsham, and having bought of his father the Græme Park property, he resided thereon until a few years before his death, when he purchased an adjoining property, and resided there until his death, which occurred on the 20th day of November, 1863, in his eighty-second year, his wife, Hannah, having died in 1850. They had seven children, four boys and three girls, as follows: Ann J., born September 25, 1811; Samuel, April 18, 1813; Jarrett, April 1, 1815; Abel, May 3, 1817; Hannah February 23, 1820; William, March 26, 1822; Tacy S., October 14, 1823. Ann J.

married Abraham Iredell, of Horsham. Samuel died unmarried, aged thirty-five years. Jarrett married Tacy A. Kirk, of Abington. Abel married Sarah Beissel, of Allentown, Pa. Hannah married Isaac W. Hicks, of Newtown, Pa. William died in infancy. Tacy S. married Morris Davis, of Warminster, Pa.

Jarrett Penrose, the subject of the present sketch, was born at Graeme Park April 1, 1815, and resided thereat until his marriage with Tacy S. Kirk, daughter of John and Tabitha Kirk, of Abington, Montgomery Co., Pa., January 20, 1842. Hethen bought of Abraham Iredell's estate the farm in Horsham on which he now resides. His children are five in number, four

Howard, Morris P., William, Jr., and Lydia. Samuel married Mary C. Farren, of Doylestown, Pa., and resides there. They have one child, Cyril Farren.

ABEL PENROSE.

Abel Penrose, owner of Graeme Park farm, is the grandson of Samuel Penrose, who came from Richland township, Bucks Co., Pa., in 1801, and settled on the farm now owned by Abel Penrose. The Penrose family was probably among the early settlers of that part of Bucks County from which Samuel emigrated. Samuel married Sarah Roberts, and, had children, as follows: William, married Hannah



Abel Penrose

now living, as follows: Ellen S., born January 14, 1843; Elizabeth H., January 4, 1845; William, July 31, 1847; Alfred, May 14, 1849 (who died in infancy); Samuel, May 5, 1852. They married as follows: Ellen S. married Edward T. Betts, of Warminster, Pa., now residing at Buffalo, N. Y. Their children are C. Walter, William P., Edward T., Jr., and Lizzie P. C. Walter married Lidie P. Haslam, of Philadelphia, Pa., and now residing in Buffalo. Elizabeth H. married Alfred Moore, of Horsham, Pa., and resides on the homestead farm. Their children are Ellie B. and Bertha A. William married Hannah Paul, of Warington, Pa., and resides there. Their children are J.

daughter of William and Ann Jarrett (she was born Tenth Month, 1783; died in 1850); Abel (died Twelfth Month 7, 1824, aged forty-six years and four months); Benjamin, married Rachael Fratt; Morris, married Rebecca, daughter of Dr. Mitchell Everard (died Eighth Month 30, 1823, aged thirty-eight years, ten months and twenty-three days); Margaret; Gainor; Mary (died Ninth Month 19, 1795, aged eight years, four months and eight days); Sussanna (died Eighth Month 8, 1799, aged six years and thirteen days); Samuel (died Sixth Month, 1797, aged nine months and twenty-six days).

Of these children, William, the eldest, was born

Third Month 14, 1782, married as above stated, and died in 1863, aged eighty-one years, eight months and six days. William and Hannah Jarrett Penrose were the parents of children, as follows: Ann Jarrett (born Ninth Month 25, 1811), married Abraham Iredell; Samuel (born Fourth Month 18, 1813, died Second Month 24, 1848, aged thirty-four years, ten months and six days); Jarrett (born Fourth Month 1, 1815), married Tacy Ann Kirk, and is one of the substantial farmers of Horsham township; Abel (born Fifth Month 3, 1817); Hannah L. (born Second Month 20, 1820), married Isaac W. Hicks; William (born Third Month 26, 1822, died Seventh Month 12, 1822); Tacy S. (born Tenth Month 14, 1823), married Morris Davis.

About the time William Penrose, the father of these children, was married he purchased from his father (Samuel) the old homestead, where he was born, lived and died. He was one of the sturdy yeomanry of Horsham, and a man of solid worth, steady habits, honored and respected by all who knew him.

Abel Penrose, the fourth child of William, was married, December 25, 1856, to Sarah C., daughter of Daniel and Mary M. Beisel, of Allentown, Lehigh Co., Pa. She was born April 3, 1836. The children of Abel and Sarah C. Penrose have been as follows: Hannah J. (born 1858), married, November 16, 1882, A. D. Markley, M.D., of Hatboro', Pa., she is the mother of two children,—Penrose and Anna Markley; Morris B., 1860, unmarried; William, 1870; Mary M., 1877.

The parents of Mrs. Penrose were natives of Cata-sauqua, Northumberland Co., Pa.

Abel Penrose has thus far through life borne well his part in the business affairs of a farmer's life, to which all his energies have been devoted. His every act in his long and busy career has been devoid of offense to any one with whom he had occasion to transact the ordinary business affairs of life, and he is honored and respected by all who know him. He has been one of the progressive farmers of the period, attending strictly to his own business, leaving the political affairs of the township to be looked after by those who have a taste in that direction, being content himself with the right of suffrage.

Mr. Penrose, unlike many farmers in our country, attended not only to the routine duties of the farm, but has found time to devote to seeking a knowledge of public men of all nations, and a personal inspection of not only his own country, but portions of Europe as well. He has visited Europe twice, and in 1844 he spent eight months in England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland, and is familiar with the everyday affairs of his own country to a degree beyond that of most men.

With the large and beautiful farm he owns is connected a bit of history worth noting in connection with this sketch. For this historical sketch of the farm we are indebted to Mrs. Penrose, whose diligent researches brought the matter to light:

"Keith House, in Horsham, was commenced in 1721; the coat-of-arms of the family, with the exception of the motto, 'Remember thy End,' was placed on the contract by Sir William, which proves the exact date of the house (1722).

"The plate in the chimney was placed there by Dr. Græme in 1728. Sir William Keith received the appointment through William Penn, and was, through his elegant manner of living, unpopular with the Quakers. He returned in 1728 and published in England an account of the colonies, and urged their taxation for the defense against the French and Indians. This is supposed to be the first suggestion of taxation which brought on the war of the Revolution.

"Keith never returned to Pennsylvania, and died in the Old Bailey Prison, London, November 18, 1749. When Governor Keith came to Pennsylvania he brought with him his wife, who had been the widow of Robert Jiggs, of England, and his step-daughter, Ann Jiggs, and also Dr. Thomas Græme, who lived in the city, north side of Chestnut Street, above Sixth. Dr. Thomas Græme married Ann, step-daughter of Sir William Keith, November 12, 1719. After Sir William left for England, Dr. Græme moved to what is now Horsham, and then named the place Græme Park, which comprised a tract from Keith of twelve hundred acres. Keith had it as a hunting park, and grand *fêtes* of hunting-parties of lords and gentlemen assembled at the house, and from there started out for deer, pheasants and other game.

"As in the old country, Lady Keith lived in seclusion at Horsham and in Philadelphia, and died July 31, 1740, aged sixty-five years.

"Dr. Græme was in the course of his life a member of the Council, port physician and many years collector of the port of Philadelphia. Dr. and Ann Græme, his wife, had a daughter who married a Ferguson.

"Mrs. Elizabeth Ferguson lived at Græme Park, and became noted through her alleged complicity in attempting to bribe Joseph Reed during the Revolutionary war.

"Jane Græme, sister of Dr. Græme, lived also at the park, and married James Young and had three children; one of them married William Smith, M.D., a graduate of Pennsylvania University, in 1771, and father of Samuel F. Smith, for many years president of the Philadelphia Bank.

"During the Revolution Græme Park was the headquarters of General Lacey, commanding the Pennsylvania militia, in operations against the British. The drawing-room of the mansion was occupied as the guard-room and the lawn occupied by the headquarters camp. Græme Park remained in the family of Dr. Græme for a short time after the Revolutionary war, when it passed into other hands, and in 1801 came into possession of the Penrose family, where it still remains."

The old stone mansion built by Keith is still standing, and in as good a state of preservation as when

first built. It stands but a few rods from the residence of Mr. Penrose, and occupied by some of his tenants.

Mrs. Penrose has in her possession an oil painting of Mrs. Ferguson, painted when she was a little girl of probably three or four summers. The work was evidently done by one of the old masters of the art, and is still perfect in every detail, and, to one of artistic taste is a painting of rare excellence, and is highly prized by its owner.

WILLIAM LUKENS JARRETT.

William Lukens Jarrett is a lineal descendant of the pioneer family of that name who located in what

of Horsham township; John was a farmer, and owned a farm near Babylon,—the farm now owned by Charles M. Jarrett. John Jarrett became the father of the following children: Jonathan, born in 1805, married Agnes Roberts, of Horsham township, and died in 1884. Agnes is also deceased. Ann, born in 1807, married Chalkley Kenderdine, and died in 1871; he died Second Month 23, 1885. James died in infancy. Mary, born in 1811, married Charles L. Dager, and now lives in Gwynedd township; Hannah, born in 1814, died in 1860; Tacy, born in 1816, married Richard S. Moore, of Horsham township.

William L., the subject of this notice, was born Sixth



Wm. L. Jarrett

is now Montgomery County, then Bristol township, Philadelphia Co. William J. Buck, in his "History of Montgomery County" speaks of Thomas and Levi Jarrett as living in what is now Upper Dublin township. John Jarrett, the great-grandfather of William L., was born in 1702, and Mr. Buck speaks of him as one of the first or original officers of the Hatboro' Library Company, in 1775.

This John was married and had a son, Jonathan, who became the father of children, as follows: John, born in 1779; Richard; Isaac and Jonathan. John, who was born in 1779, was married, Fifth Month 20, 1803, to Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan Lukens,

Month 28, 1819. He remained at home assisting in the duties and labors pertaining to farm-life, and at the death of his father, in 1849, purchased the old homestead, and continued the occupation of a farmer, adding to his landed estate as it seemed to him desirable, and in 1870 sold the old homestead to Charles M. Jarrett, retaining for himself the farm occupied by Charles Dager and the store property at Davis Grove, where he resides with his nephew, John H. Jarrett.

Mr. Jarrett has thus far passed through life in single blessedness, and without the annoyances in many instances pertaining to the marriage relation. His journey

thus far has been one of honest industry and uprightness of character, and he is highly esteemed by his fellow-citizens as one of the progressive men of the age, who could be trusted in whatever capacity he was placed. He has honored the position of school director of Horsham for six years, and the office of town auditor, for several terms. Mr. Jarrett adheres strictly to the religion of his ancestors, and is a member of Horsham Monthly Meeting.

WILLIAM J. HALLOWELL AND THE "JARRETT
HOMESTEAD FARM."

William J. Hallowell was the son of John R. and Ann J. Hallowell, and was born October 12, 1813.

so numerous and widely scattered, and of which the following history and genealogical sketch has been gathered. Samuel Carpenter, in 1702, obtained from William Penn five thousand and eight acres of land, for one English silver shilling for every one hundred acres, which he disposed of to different parties of the early settlers, and in 1709 that now known as the "Jarrett homestead farm," with a part of the land owned by George W. Jarrett, was conveyed to John Lukens, supposed to be the father of Mary Lukens, who married John Jarrett, into whose possession the farm came in 1726, who was the first of the Jarrett family to settle in the then new county.

From an old English Bible in possession of the



Wm J Hallowell

He assumed farming as an occupation on the completion of his education, which was in his twenty-first year, and in 1844 removed to the farm belonging to his mother, situated in Horsham township, known as the "Jarrett homestead farm," which is one of the tracts of land of Montgomery County that has remained in the same family since its settlement by William Penn, particularly interesting as being the homestead of the Jarrett family, which has become

family, printed in 1715, which John Jarrett, in 1751, presented to his son John "and the heirs of his body forever and ever," it is learned that the name was in those days spelled Jerrett, and that he and his wife, Mary, emigrated from Scotland and were members of the Society of Friends.

No account is given of their having but one child, known as John Jarrett, Jr., born 3d, Third Month, 1719, to whom all their land was deeded in 1741.

John Jarrett, Jr., married Alice Conard, and from their twelve children are descended numerous Jarretts, scattered in various parts of the country.

These twelve, with their births and deaths, are as follows: John Jarrett, born Eighth Month 12, 1741, died Seventh Month 19, 1819; Mary (unmarried), born Seventh Month 25, 1742; Elizabeth, born Fifth Month 19, 1744 (married Mordecai Thomas), died, aged ninety years; Hannah, born Eighth Month 2, 1745 (married John Heston); Rachel, born First Month 14, 1747 (married Anthony Williams), died First Month 12, 1818; William, born Ninth Month 23, 1748, died Ninth Month 13, 1827; Alice, born Eleventh Month 13, 1750 (married Jonathan Thomas), died Ninth Month 8, 1824; Jonathan, born First Month 31, 1753 (married Hannah Mather), died Third Month 8, 1835; David, born First Month 15, 1755 (married Rebecca Cadwallader), died Fifth Month 16, 1815; Jesse, born Third Month 26, 1757 (married Eliz. Palmer); Tacy (died young), born Seventh Month 24, 1758; Joseph, born Ninth Month 7, 1761 (married Rachel Edge), died Eleventh Month 24, 1861.

William Jarrett, the sixth child of John and Alice Jarrett, married Ann, daughter of John Lukens, of Philadelphia, and came into the possession of the "homestead farm" in 1774.

The children of William and Ann Jarrett were as follows: Jane Jarrett, born Twelfth Month 18, 1775 (married Thomas Thompson); Mary, born Second Month 2, 1777; William, born Fourth Month 19, 1779 (unmarried), died Eighth Month 10, 1860; Mary, born Sixth Month 15, 1781 (married Israel Hallowell, of Abington township), and died Sixth Month 26, 1867; Hannah Jarrett, born Tenth Month 1, 1783 (married William Penrose); Tacy, born Ninth Month 16, 1785 (married Charles Stokes, of Burlington County, N. J.), died Ninth Month 15, 1877; Ann, born Eleventh Month 26, 1787 (married John R. Hallowell, of Abington township), died Seventh Month 26, 1867; Alice, born Seventh Month 15, 1791 (married Caleb Lippincott, of Burlington County, N. J.), and died Ninth Month 15, 1831.

On the death of William Jarrett, in 1827, one hundred and forty-six acres were deeded to his daughter Ann, married to John R. Hallowell, and the remaining seventy-eight acres were bought by her husband from the heirs for seventy dollars per acre, so that they became possessors of all the original tract.

For a period of fifteen years the same tract was rented to John Scott for the sum of three hundred dollars a year, which was finally increased to six hundred dollars. In 1844, Ann Jarrett Hallowell's son, William J. Hallowell (the present owner), took possession, and in 1863, for the average sum of one hundred and five dollars per acre, a deed for the same was transferred to him.

On the 28th of Third Month, 1845, he was married

to Tacy Ann Paul, daughter of Joshua Paul, of Bucks County, who was the possessor of a large tract of land joining the Jarrett homestead farm, a portion of the same five thousand and eight acres which Samuel Carpenter obtained of William Penn, transferred in 1727 to James Paul, a son of Joseph Paul, of Oxford township, who is supposed to have emigrated from Wales about 1700.

This farm has also ever since remained in the same family, at present in that of the fifth generation.

Of the five children of William J. and Tacy Ann Hallowell, the third, William J. Hallowell, Jr., is the only son. He married Anna E. Thomas, daughter of the late Abner and Sarah Ann Thomas, of Montgomery County, and in 1873 took possession of the "Jarrett homestead farm," which he still occupies.

The Doylestown and Willow Grove turnpike, made in 1839, cut the farm, which was square in shape, diagonally in two, and supplanted the old Easton road, which was the route by which all the merchandise was conveyed from Philadelphia to Easton, that now passing by Davis Grove, then known as Jarrett's Corner, and forming the western boundary line of the farm, being a part of the same.

On the western side of the same pike, buildings were erected in 1872, which have ever since been occupied by the present owner; thus the original tract, comprising two hundred and twenty acres, is divided into two farms of about one hundred and ten acres each, although as yet they are virtually one and the same, in that they continue, as heretofore, to be managed and cultivated.

The "Jarrett homestead farm," one of the most productive and valuable in the county, is possessed of considerable historic interest, in that there are centered the numerous traditions connected with the large family of Jarretts.

At present there reside on it three generations, and the ninth to-day is as loyal to the religious Society of Friends as were its ancestors of over a century and a half ago. The homestead farm well attests to the energy and capacity of its present owner and the ability which characterizes him in all undertakings of a public nature.

A man of education and culture, and so eminently successful as a farmer, he is prominent in Montgomery County as one who has done much in a practical way to lift hand-work from the contempt into which it has fallen, and to prove the entire compatibility of manual labor and mental culture.

The following are the children of William J. and Tacy Ann Paul Hallowell: Annie J., born Eighth Month 10, 1846, married Elwood Lukens, and died Tenth Month 27, 1873 (they were the parents of one child,—Annie H., born Ninth Month 21, 1873, died Eleventh Month 29, 1873); Hannah P., born Eleventh Month 29, 1848; William J., Jr., born Tenth Month 9, 1851; Lizzie W., born Fifth Month 10, 1854; Mary P., born Fifth Month 17, 1858.

The following record is taken from same source as above.

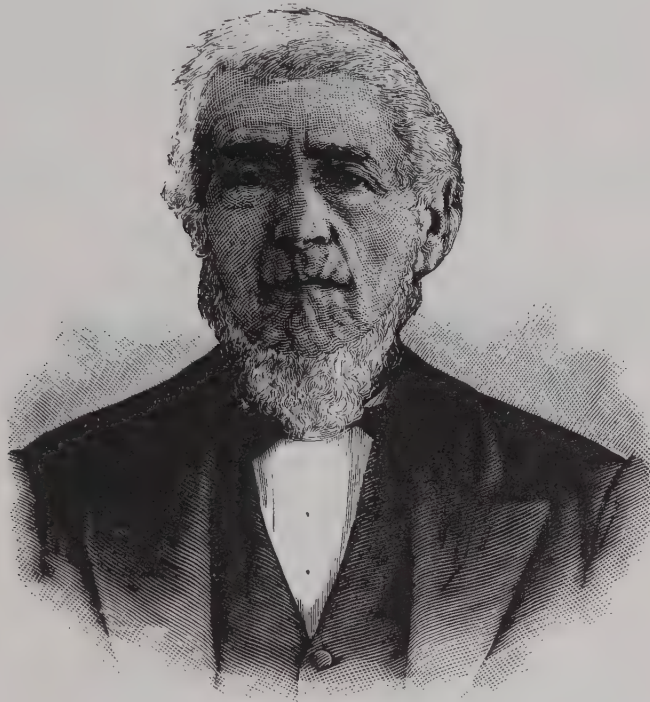
Children of Joseph Paul, son of James Paul and Mary, his wife, and Hannah Paul, daughter of James Paul and Sarah, his wife,—Sarah Paul, born Fifth Month 7, 1771; Sidney Paul, born Second Month 4, 1773; John Paul, born Sixth Month 23, 1774; Howard Paul, born Sixth Month 25, 1781; Yeamans Paul, born Twelfth Month 21, 1783.

Children of Joshua Paul, son of Joseph Paul and Hannah, his wife, and Hannah Stokes, daughter of John and Susanna Stokes,—Susanna Paul, born Ninth Month 13, 1797; Joseph Paul, born Eleventh Month

native of Ireland, both emigrating to this country during the latter part of the last century, and locating in Bucks County, Pa., where they became the parents of a family, one of whom was William.

Gilbert W. Ely, son of William and Rebecca Ely, was born Eleventh Month 17, 1804, in Newtown, Bucks Co., Pa., where he lived until 1828, when he married and moved to Montgomery County, Pa., where he, in 1854, purchased a farm, upon which he resided till 1877, when he purchased the property he now occupies in Horsham township and retired from the active duties of a farmer.

Mr. Ely has lived upon a farm all his life, or until



Gilbert W. Ely

11, 1799; Sidnea Paul, born Third Month 7, 1802; John Paul, born Seventh Month 29, 1804; Morris Paul, born Eleventh Month 30, 1807; Hannah and Commings Paul (twins), born Fifth Month 3, 1809; Rachel S. Paul, born Third Month 14, 1812; Yeamans Paul, born Ninth Month 5, 1814; Tacy Ann Paul, born Third Month 28, 1817.

GILBERT W. ELY.

Gilbert W. Ely is of English-Irish descent, as his grandfather, George Ely, was a native of England, and his grandmother, Sarah (McGill) Ely, was a

1877, always attending strictly to the duties pertaining to that branch of business, honored and respected by his fellow-townsmen and acquaintances, seeking neither honor nor profit from any but the hard-earned source of an honest farmer's life. He has diligently shunned the path leading to political honors, never having occupied but two official positions,—a school director and a township collector, each for a term of three years. He was born and reared in the Society of Friends, and is a member of Horsham Monthly Meeting.

He was married, Tenth Month 4, 1828, to Sarah D.,

daughter of Joshua and Hannah Corson, who was born Eighth Month 26, 1808, in Upper Makefield, Bucks Co., Pa. Her father and mother were both natives of Bucks County, where her father was born in 1780 and died in 1870, and where also his wife died in July, 1855, aged seventy-five years.

Benjamin Corson, grandfather of Mrs. Ely, was born in Bucks County, where he died at the age of sixty-six years. Sarah Dungan, wife of Benjamin Corson, was also a native of Bucks County, where she also died at the age of sixty-six years.

The following are the names of the children and grandchildren of George W. and Sarah D. Ely.

I. Hannah C., born Second Month 1, 1830, married George, son of Naylor Webster, of Horsham township. Their children are Joshua C., born First Month 20, 1856; and Ella, born Eighth Month 27, 1857.

II. Joshua C., born Ninth Month 28, 1833, died Sixth Month 1, 1853.

III. Rebecca Smith, born First Month 29, 1837, married George S., son of Charles Teas, of Horsham township. They have one child, Ellen, born Tenth Month 15, 1857.

IV. William Elwood, born Ninth Month 13, 1842, married Hannah, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Cunard, of Fitzwater township, Bucks Co., Pa. They have children,—Francis Edward C., born Third Month 26, 1867; Bertha Estelle, born Eighth Month 22, 1868.

In 1862, William Elwood Ely commenced the study of medicine, and graduated in 1864 from the University of Pennsylvania, and during that year was commissioned as surgeon in the United States army and assigned to duty at Fraley Hospital, Washington, D. C., and subsequently placed in charge of the Sixth Veteran Reserves, at Sherburn Barracks. He was subsequently transferred to Philadelphia, Pa., and assigned to duty in McClellan United States Army General Hospital, and subsequently appointed examining surgeon for General Hancock's corps, Army of the Potomac. At the close of the war he returned to Fox Chase, where he commenced the practice of medicine, practicing in that place and Frankford until 1877, when he relinquished the practice of medicine and engaged in the real estate business at North Wales, Montgomery Co., Pa., where he now resides.

V. Anna Louisa, born Third Month 31, 1847, married Israel, son of Robert and Mary Mullins, of Horsham township. Anna Louisa died Third Month 16, 1883, leaving three sons,—Howard E., born Tenth Month 6, 1874; Clarence, born Eighth Month 3, 1877; Wesley, born Seventh Month 8, 1882.

VI. Adele C., born Second Month 25, 1853, married Samuel C., son of Amos and Ascenath Lukens, of Philadelphia. They have children,—Elsie, born Second Month 24, 1876, died Seventh Month 16, 1876; Gilbert E., born Eleventh Month 17, 1877, died Sixth Month 1, 1880; Jessie May, born Fifth Month 2,

1880; Marion, born Twelfth Month 27, 1882; Edward S., born Twelfth Month 27, 1883.

JACOB KIRK.

I. John Kirk, progenitor of this branch of the family of that name in Montgomery County, emigrated from Freedtown, Derbyshire, England, in 1687, and located in Darby (now Upper Darby), in Delaware County, Pa., where he purchased five hundred acres of land. He was a member of the Friends' Society, and was married in the Darby Meeting, the same year he located, to Joan, daughter of Peter Elliott, and died in 1705. John and Joan Kirk were the parents of ten children.

II. John, the second son of John and Joan Kirk, was born the 29th of First Month, 1692. In 1712, this John, Jr., purchased from John and Sarah Ironmonger two hundred acres of land in Abington township, adjoining Upper Dublin township, on which he lived the remainder of his life. The price paid for this two hundred acre tract was two hundred and sixty pounds. He subsequently made another purchase of five hundred acres of land in Upper Dublin township. It appears that he was a stone-mason by occupation; and in 1722 built the stone mansion for Sir William Keith on the farm now owned by Abel Penrose, in Horsham township, and known as Graeme Park Mansion. In that year he married, in Abington Meeting, Sarah, daughter of Ryneer Tyson, the emigrant. John and Sarah Kirk were the parents of eight children.

III. Jacob, the fourth son of John and Sarah Kirk, was born 20th of Seventh Month, 1735. He married, in Abington Meeting, in 1760, Elizabeth, daughter of John Cleaver, of Bristol township, Philadelphia Co., Pa. He inherited the homestead, lived to be ninety-three years of age, and died in the same house where he was born. They were the parents of eight children.

IV. Jacob, the third son of Jacob and Elizabeth Kirk, was born the 23d of Ninth Month, 1769, and in 1792 he married, in Horsham Meeting, Rebecca, daughter of Charles and Phebe Iredell, and they became the parents of eleven children. His father, Jacob Kirk, Sr., divided his farm of two hundred acres, and erected new buildings on that part adjoining the Welsh road, where the father, mother and three of their children ended their days.

V. Aaron, second son of Jacob and Rebecca Kirk, was born in Abington township, Montgomery Co., Second Month 2, 1802, and lived on his father's farm until he was between fifteen and sixteen years of age, when he was apprenticed to Stevenson Croesdale, of Mechanicsville, then in Byberry township, now in the Twenty-third Ward of Philadelphia, to learn the trade of a wheelwright. After serving his time he worked as a journeyman wheelwright for about two years, when by an accident he lost a portion of his right arm. He was then engaged for a few years

in the manufacture of lime at Sandy Run, Pa., and in 1836 he purchased the farm now occupied by his son Jacob, where he lived until the date of his death, which occurred March 29, 1877. He married, in Byberry Monthly Meeting, Third Month 14, 1833, Ann, daughter of Samuel and Rachel Paul, of Byberry township, now Twenty-third Ward, Philadelphia; she was born Fifth Month 10, 1807, and died Fourth Month 9, 1881.

Their children were as follows: Rachel, born Eleventh Month 2, 1835, died Third Month 2, 1837;

Amanda, daughter of Martin and Mary K. Bowen, of Schuylkill Haven, Schuylkill Co., Pa. The result of this union has been,—

Ida Genevieve, born First Month, 31, 1866, married Oliver Hazard S. Mourer, of Watsontown, Northumberland Co., Pa. They have one child, Cleveland Kirk, born July 13, 1884.

Mary Ann, born August 6, 1867.

Aaron, born November 6, 1869.

Carrie Burnham and Emma Elizabeth (twins), born First Month 24, 1875. The first-named died Third



Jacob Kirk

Jacob, born Fourth Month 1, 1838; Edwin, born September, 1840; Stephen Treadwell, born in February, 1842, died Twelfth Month 16, 1877, aged thirty-five years.

Of the Paul family, Samuel died Fourth Month 8, 1845, aged seventy-five years; Phebe K. Stackhouse died Fifth Month 6, 1845, aged forty-five years and three months; Rachel Paul died Eleventh Month 27, 1859, aged eighty-four years and four months; Hannah A. Martindale died Fourth Month 18, 1874, aged forty years.

VI. Jacob Kirk, eldest son of Aaron and Rachel, was married, Eleventh Month 26, 1864, to Mary Ann

Month 12, 1876, and the last-named died Fifth Month 10, 1888.

Mr. Kirk inherited the homestead, containing eighty-four acres of land, where he still conducts the affairs of the farm with that skill and shrewdness that places him in the front rank of the progressive farmers of Horsham township, if not in the county.

Unlike many others similarly situated, he yields not to the tempting bait of political honors, and refuses to place himself in a position where his honor might be called in question. Religiously he is by birthright a Friend, and adheres strictly to the religious doctrines expounded by George Fox.

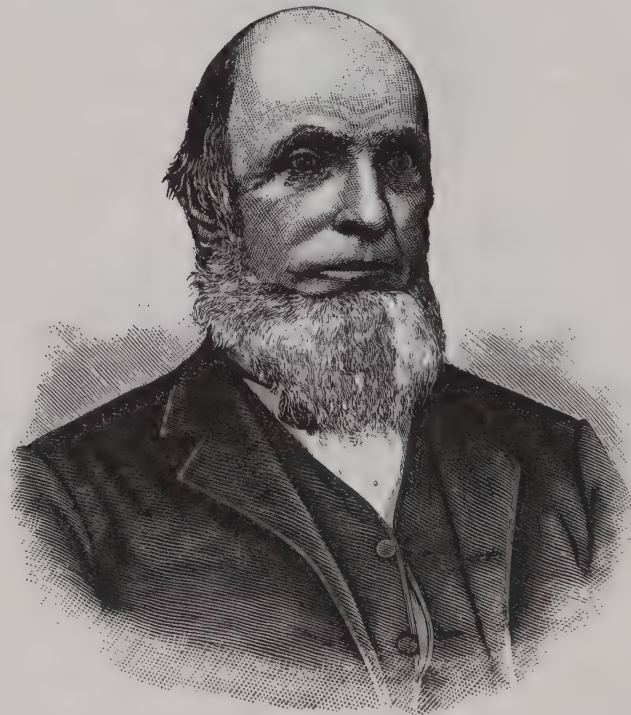
THOMAS B. GEATRELL.

The parents of Mr. Geatrell, George and Ann Geatrell, were both born on the Isle of Wight, England, and came to America in July, 1821, in the employ of a farmer named Hearn, who then owned the farm now owned by the Clayton estate, on the Welsh road, Gwynedd township, and about two years after their arrival in this country were married, and soon commenced farming on their own account in Gwynedd township, where Thomas B. Geatrell, the subject of this sketch, was born March 19, 1824. His early life was spent upon the farm with his parents, and at the common or "paid schools" of that period. His father,

satisfaction of a well-earned reputation for honesty, sobriety and fair dealing with his fellow-men.

Mr. Geatrell has never sought political preferment, and is free from the suspicions usually attaching to those whose lives are guided by such influences. He is a member of the Boehm Reformed Church, at Blue Bell, Whitpain township, and for many years one of its trustees, and since 1878 one of its elders. He was one of the original stockholders of the First National Bank of Ambler, and has been one of its directors from its organization to the present time.

Mr. Geatrell was married, December 25, 1848, to Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Ann Jackson Ash-



Thomas B. Geatrell

in the mean time, had purchased a small farm near what is known as the "Broad Axe," in Whitpain township, and now owned by the estate of Clement Comly. In 1850, Thomas commenced business for himself on his father's farm, where he remained but one year, when he purchased and moved on to the old and well known Iredell farm, in Horsham township, where he remained at farming, butchering and marketing for the Philadelphia markets until 1870, when he retired from the active duties of a large farmer and moved to the small place where he now lives, in the enjoyment of the fruits of his labors, and the

ton. Mrs. Geatrell was born May 17, 1828, and was the youngest of four children. Her mother died in 1842, and her father in 1849. The children of Thomas B. and Elizabeth Geatrell are George, born December 8, 1849. He married Carrie Kulp, and now resides at Penllyn, Gwynedd township.

Mary, born September 3, 1852, and died when nineteen years of age. She was the wife of R. Comly Wilson, who now lives near Newtown, Pa.

Horace A., born August 23, 1860, married Mary Smith, and now lives on the old homestead.

Anna B., born December 13, 1867, married February

26, 1885, to Robert Comly, of Horsham township. George Geatrell, the father of Thomas B., died in 1878. His mother, Ann Geatrell, is still living, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, and to a remarkable degree retains all her faculties. They were the parents of three children,—Thomas B., Elizabeth and Mary. Elizabeth is the mother of George Hoover, a prominent lawyer of Norristown, Montgomery Co., Pa.

LUKENS PAUL.

Lukens Paul is a grandson of Joseph Paul, who was born Seventh Month 27, 1739, and died Third Month 13, 1799. His wife, Hannah Paul, was born Eighth Month 3, 1744, and died Twelfth Month 14, 1802. They lived for many years on the farm now owned by Joseph Paul, in Bucks County, about half a mile from what is now known as Davis Grove Post-Office, in Horsham township, Montgomery Co. Of their early life, or the influence they exerted in moulding and fashioning the course pursued by the generations that have followed them, we can only judge by the fruit grown from the original stock, which is honest, industrious and law-abiding in every sense of the word.

The children of Joseph and Hannah Paul were Sarah, born Fifth Month 7, 1771, and died Eighth Month 4, 1812; Sidnea, born Second Month 4, 1773; Joshua, born Sixth Month 3, 1774; Hannah, born Sixth Month 21, 1781; and Yeamans Paul, born Fourth Month 5, 1783, and died Ninth Month 10, 1837.

Yeamans Paul, the youngest child of Joseph and Hannah, was born on the farm adjoining the one above alluded to, now owned by Joseph Paul, where he spent his days, and where his children were born. His wife was Susan Lukens, who was born Seventh Month 18, 1791, and died Fourth Month 27, 1869. Their children were Lukens Paul, the subject of this sketch, who was born Third Month 27, 1813, and Joseph Paul, born Second Month 1, 1817, and died when in his thirty-fourth year.

The farm on which Lukens Paul was born, adjoining Joseph Paul's, is a part of an original tract which contained four hundred and fifty or five hundred acres; the farm, however, is now held by Elizabeth Ivins.

It was on that farm that Mr. Lukens Paul spent his early life, or until he was twenty-six years of age, when he married Hannah S., daughter of Joseph S. and Susanna P. Lukens, First Month 31, 1839. He then purchased the farm of one hundred and three acres formerly owned by his maternal grandfather, Azor Lukens, and at once settled down to the business of a farmer, and thus continued for a period of twenty-eight years to be a faithful, honest, industrious tiller of the soil, which yielded abundantly under his skillful management, and in due time brought him a sufficiency of this world's goods that enabled him, in

1867, to retire from the active duties of an agriculturist, and now resides upon his fifteen-acre lot, where, with his wife, he enjoys the comforts and blessings with which they are surrounded and encouraged in their journey to the golden gates of the great future. Mr. Paul has never held or sought any office of a political character, yet is honored with a seat in the board of directors of Farmers' Hay-Market Association, Seventh and Oxford Streets, Philadelphia.

The children of Lukens and Hannah S. Paul are Elwood Paul, born Seventh Month 30, 1840, married Tenth Month 24, 1867, Martha Ellen Shoemaker. The result of this union has been two children, Harry Elwood and Bertha H.

Isabella Paul, born Tenth Month 14, 1845, married, Fourth Month 8, 1869, to Oliver P. Knight. Their children are L. Paul Knight, born Seventh Month 16, 1870; Joseph Elwood Knight, born Ninth Month 18, 1876.

Joseph S. Lukens, father of Mr. Lukens Paul, was born First Month 21, 1786, and died Fifth Month 25, 1875. His wife, Susanna P. Lukens, died Tenth Month 4, 1872, aged seventy-five years and twenty-one days.

Their children are Isaiah; Hannah S., wife of Lukens Paul, born Third Month 14, 1819; Joshua P.; Sidnea A.; Jervis S., died First Month 21, 1861, aged thirty-two years, three months, eight days. His wife, Ann P. Lukens, died Second Month 18, 1858, aged thirty-four years. Sarah Lukens died Eighth Month 7, 1872, aged thirty-nine years, ten months and ten days, unmarried.

CHAPTER LIX.

LIMERICK TOWNSHIP.¹

THIS township is bounded on the northeast by Frederick, southeast by Perkiomen and Upper Providence, south by the borough of Royer's Ford, southwest by the river Schuylkill, west by Pottsgrove and northwest by New Hanover. It is of regular form, its greatest length being nearly five miles and its breadth four and a half, with an area of about fourteen thousand acres, and, excepting New Hanover and Lower Merion, it is the largest township in the county. The borough of Royer's Ford, incorporated June 14, 1879, was wholly taken from this township, and has in consequence reduced its territory and population. The surface is rolling and in its northern part hilly, where the highest elevation is called Stone Hill. For about the distance of a mile and a half along the Schuylkill, between Royer's Ford and Limerick Station, there are quite steep hills rising immediately from

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

the water's edge to a height of from sixty to one hundred feet, which are covered principally with small pines and bushes. Within this distance are extensive quarries of hard red sandstone, the stratification of which will admit of being taken out in huge square blocks. From Limerick Station up the river for more than a mile the land recedes quite gradually. The soil along the Schuylkill is fertile and productive, but the remainder is a stiff clay. Although among the largest townships in extent, its streams are so weak that they only furnish power to propel a saw-mill. Mingo Creek has its rise near Limerick Square, and after a course of four miles turns into Upper Providence. Lodle and Mine Creeks have also their sources in this township. Swamp Creek passes for nearly a mile through the north corner. There are several smaller streams, which, in consequence of being easily affected by drought, are of little account.

Limerick in 1741 contained 58 taxables; in 1828, 315; and in 1882, 646. According to the census of 1800, it contained 999 inhabitants; in 1840, 1786; and in 1880, 2365. In 1882 the real estate and personal property was rated at \$1,461,545, making the average per taxable \$2262. The Reading Railroad traverses the township its entire breadth on the Schuylkill, a distance of about five miles, on which is Royer's Ford and Limerick Station. The Reading turnpike crosses for five miles through its centre, and the Limerick and Colebrookdale pike about three miles. The former improvement was completed in 1815 and the latter in 1855. The villages are Limerick Station, Limerick Square, Fruitville and Stone Hill, the first two possessing post-offices. The census of 1850 returned 373 houses, 403 families and 248 farms. No mention whatever is made in the assessments of 1776 and 1785 of grist or saw-mills, but two tanneries at the last-named date. The township elections have been held continuously, at least since 1838, at Limerick Square. The public schools are twelve, open six months, and five hundred and fifty-one scholars enrolled.

Limerick Station, the largest village, is situated on the Schuylkill, thirty-four miles from Philadelphia. It contains about fifty houses, a post-office, several stores, a hotel, steam flour-mill, stove and hollow-ware works, lumber and coal-yards, steam planing-mill, sash and door-factory, besides other manufacturing establishments and mechanic shops. The post-office was located here before 1851 as Limerick Bridge; changed in 1866 to its present name. This place in 1858 contained twelve houses. A short distance above the village is what is generally called Lawrenceville bridge, built in 1849, the name being applied from a place of this name on the opposite side of the river, in Chester County. In this vicinity are several fine, productive farms. While it possesses the advantages of the railroad, the canal passes by on the opposite side of the Schuylkill. Application was made by several of its residents at June Sessions, 1884, to have the village incorporated into a borough, to be called "Linfield."

Limerick Square is situated nearly in the centre of the township, at the junction of the Reading and Colebrookdale turnpikes, twenty-eight miles from Philadelphia. It contains a post-office, hotel, several stores, manufacturing establishments and machine-shops, and about twenty-eight houses. The post-office is called Limerick, and was located here before 1830, Dieter Bucher being at that time postmaster. The road through here was laid out quite early, showing that it was an old settlement. Widow Lloyd kept an inn here at the forks of the road at least as early as 1758 and down to 1769. This stand was kept by John Stetler in 1776, who was then rated for one hundred acres and keeping a servant. It remained still in the name as late as 1792, and according to Reading Howell's map, the place in consequence was known as "Stetler's." The elections have been held here continuously for about half a century. In 1858 the village contained a store, brick-yard, two smith-shops, large steam grist and saw-mill and sixteen houses, several being commodious three-story brick dwellings. At the lower end of the place the Evangelical denomination have a one-story brick church, built in 1851. The Colebrookdale turnpike was laid on the bed of the Swamp road, opened some time before 1758.

Fruitville is located on the Colebrookdale pike, one and a half miles north of Limerick Square, and containing above fifteen houses, hotel, store, school-house and several mechanic shops. Stone Hill is in the northern part of the township, near the line of Frederick, and contains a store, pottery, school-house and more than a dozen houses.

Limerick—so called after a city and county in Ireland—was formed into a township at least as early as 1722. Matthew Brooke, who evidently then resided here, was appointed by the county commissioners, in February, 1718, collector of taxes for "Manatawny," then embracing a considerable extent of thinly-settled territory, thus clearly showing that this township could not have been then formed or known by its present name. Application was made at June Sessions of court, 1726, to have the same recorded on account of its having been duly formed several years before as "the township of Limerick." At March Sessions, 1709, a petition was sent from John Henry Sprogell, who then resided below the present Pottstown, and also signed by Mounce Jones and others, for the laying out of a road from Edward Lane's to Manatawny. The court accordingly ordered it to be speedily opened, and it is the same now known as the Reading road, commencing at the Perkiomen Creek. About this time the first settlements were commenced, which by 1734 had increased to twenty-one residents and landholders, whose names were as follows: Edward Nichols, 600 acres; John Davy, 300; Enoch Davis, 300; John Kendall, 300; Owen Evans, 400; William Evans, 300; Joseph Barlow, 400; Peter Umstead, 250; Oliff (or Adolph) Pennypacker, 250; Henry Reyner, 100; William Woodyly, 150; Jonathan Woodyly, 300; Wil-

liam Malsby, 200; Henry Peterson, 200; Peter Peterson, 100; Nicholas Custer, 7; Hironemus Haas, 250; Lawrence Rinker, 50; Stephen Miller, 170; Barnaby Coulson, 50; Martin Kolb, 150.

Among the present land-holders in the township are still found some of the descendants of the aforesaid, bearing the names of Evans, Pennypacker, Barlow, Umstead and Custer. In the assessment of 1776, Henry Yost and John Davis are mentioned as weavers; Peter Gerhart and John Sheef, blacksmiths; James Evans, joiner; Henry Ford, Conrad Eckleman and Michael Deemer, tailors; Yost Filman, cordwainer; and John Stetler and Peter Aichner, inn-keepers.

Oliff (or Adolph) Pennypacker was the son of Henry, the ancestor of the family, whose wife was Eve, a daughter of Peter Umstead. The former was born about 1708 and died in May, 1789. As Henry Pennypacker resided in this township for some time, it is very probable, according to the Penn Papers, that he made his purchase here the 3d of First Month, 1719, for five hundred acres of land. In the assessment of 1776 are found the names of Adolph and John Pennypacker.

John Brooke, with Frances, his wife, and two sons (James and Matthew), arrived from Yorkshire, England, in 1699. He had purchased seven hundred and fifty acres of William Penn, and on his death his sons took up the aforesaid tract in Limerick, on which they settled. It occupied the central part of the township, to the northwest of Limerick Square, and included the lot and burial-ground on which the old church is located, near which the brothers erected their buildings. A portion of the stone house built by James Brooke in 1714 has been incorporated into the modern dwelling-house now owned by Henry W. Johnson. Matthew Brooke lived on the place now owned by Henry H. Borneman, whose widow built a stone house in 1721, which stood till 1835, when it was taken down by the father of the present proprietor. In 1776, Matthew Brooke was rated for 350 acres, 3 negroes, 4 horses and 8 cattle; James Brooke, 160 acres, 1 negro, 2 horses, 3 cattle, and had sustained a loss by fire; Rachel Brooke, 190 acres, 1 horse and 2 cattle. George Brooke was mentioned as a tenant and Benjamin and Thomas Brooke as single men.

Owen Evans was an early settler, and took up here four hundred acres of land. He was appointed a justice of the peace in 1732, and continued to hold the office until his death. He appears to have been a prominent man, and died in 1754, aged fifty-five years. In 1776, David Evans was rated as holding 450 acres and 1 negro; George Evans, 200 acres; George Evans, Jr., 230 acres, 1 negro, and "maintains his mother"; Mordecai Evans, 100 acres; and Samuel Evans, a single man. The Evans family has long been an influential one in Limerick. Gunner Rambo, who was rated for 170 acres, no doubt moved up here from near Swedes' Ford. Moses Rambo, mentioned as a single man, was probably his son.

Francis Hobson removed in 1743 from New Garden township, Chester Co., into Limerick, on a purchase of two hundred and sixty-eight acres of land. This tract, in 1748, descended to his son Francis, in whose name it is rated, in 1776, as containing two hundred and fifty acres. Moses Hobson, his son, inherited the place in 1791; thence descended to his son Francis in 1831. Frank M. Hobson, of Collegeville, is a son of the latter.

Among the early township officers here we find Matthew Brooke a collector in 1718, and Barnabas Coulson in 1742; Jacob Nenteheltzer, constable in 1767; George Evans, assessor in 1776; Peter Eichner, collector; and Jacob Krous, the same position in 1781.

Parker's Ford is about a mile above the present village of Limerick Station and five miles below the borough of Pottstown. The road from here to the Trappe is five miles and a half in distance, and was laid out at an early period. The land rises gradually from the river, but on the Chester County side is more elevated. It was at this place, on the 19th of September, 1777, where the following incident occurred, as mentioned in the journal of the Rev. Henry M. Muhlenberg, residing at the Trappe:

"In the afternoon we had news that the British troops on the other side of the Schuylkill had marched down towards Providence, and with a telescope we could see their camp. In consequence of this the American Army, four miles from us, forded the Schuylkill breast-high, and came upon the Philadelphia road at Augustus Church. His excellency, General Washington, was with the troops in person, who marched past here to the Perkiomen. The procession lasted the whole night, and we had numerous visits from officers, wet breast-high, who had to march in this condition during the whole night, cold and damp as it was, and to bear hunger and thirst at the same time."

The writer visited this place August 19, 1858, on purpose to behold the scene of this occurrence. What a subject, we thought, for a painting,—the crossing of the American army here breast-deep across the Schuylkill!

Limerick Union Church.—John Brooke obtained from William Penn, in 1699, a grant of seven hundred acres, which was to be located in one tract beyond the Perkiomen Creek. In that year he came to America with his sons, James and Mathew, leaving one son, Jonathan, in England. He was detained in quarantine at Gloucester, below Philadelphia, and there died. His will bears the date of 25th of Eighth Month, 1699, directing that his property should be divided between his three sons. James and Mathew Brooke settled upon the tract when located, and were among the very earliest settlers beyond the Perkiomen. About this time the Swedes had made a settlement at Douglassville and several Germans in New Hanover. A road was laid out through the wilds from Germantown to the Swedish settlement, and at an early date another called Lewis' road, from where the church now stands to the Schuylkill at Royer's Ford.

The settlers soon felt the need of a burial-place, and James and Mathew Brooke set apart a piece of ground for that purpose at the northwest corner of the junction of the two roads. It was measured

eighteen rods square, containing two acres and four perches of land. The use of this burial-ground was allowed to all who would unite in bearing the costs of maintaining its proper inclosure. No deed was given at first, but after the death of the grantors, their sons, William and George Brooke, made a title in trust to the following persons, who were entitled to the right of burial there. It is dated July 12, 1738, and is to Jonathan Woodley, John Kendall, Robert May, William Evans, John David, Peter Peters, Jerome Hause, William Maulsby, John Jordon, Henry Coulston, John Umstadt, Barnabas Coulston, Henry Hoven, Nicholas Custer, Peter Umstadt, Claus Brown, David Jones, Owen Evans, George Evans, David Evans, Henry Coulston, Enoch Davis and Michael Hitter, for the consideration of five shillings, to them and their heirs forever, subject to a yearly rent of one peppercorn, if demanded.

No house of worship was at that time erected, but at an early day a log school-house was built on the premises, which was also used for funeral services. In 1793, Christian Borneman purchased of Mathew Brooke the farm from which the burial-place had been taken. The contributors selected one of their number to have charge of the location and making graves. Jonathan Brooke had this position for several years, or until his death, at Philadelphia, of yellow fever, in 1798, after which it was devolved on Henry Borneman. At what precise date the ground was originally set apart for this purpose, is not now readily ascertained, but it was near the beginning of the last century; the earliest date on the grave-stones is 1732.

Religious services were occasionally held in the school-house by the neighboring pastors, the residents of the neighborhood of German descent belonging either to the congregations at the Trappe, Pottstown or New Hanover. About the year 1807 steps were taken to secure the erection of a church. A petition was presented to the Legislature for a lottery to raise the sum of two thousand dollars for the purpose of building a Union Church for the use of the Lutherans, German Reformed and the Episcopalians. A charter for the lottery was granted February 16, 1808, and eight commissioners appointed, but as the enrollment tax was not paid, it remained unauthorized. It was not until the winter of 1812-13 that active measures were taken to carry out the movement. The commissioners were Owen Evans, Mathew Brooke, James B. Harris, James Evans and John Barlow. Agents were appointed and tickets offered, but after a year's exertions not more than one-fourth were disposed of. The highest prize was five hundred dollars. But the impatience of the holders of tickets led to a partial drawing. This was renewed from time to time, until at last the lottery was completed, but the repeated drawings and delays so increased expenses that only about fifteen hundred dollars was realized for the church.

The corner-stone was laid April 17, 1817. The ceremony was conducted and the sermon preached by Rev. Jacob Miller, of the New Hanover Church, and Rev. Levi Bull also took part in the services. John Dewalt was master-mason and Frederick Setzler carpenter. The walls were erected and roofed in 1817, completed during the winter and dedicated on Whitsunday, 1818. At the same time the graveyard was enlarged, and on the day of dedication Peter Schaffer, Sr., was buried in the addition. The cost of the church was about two thousand dollars, and there was a debt of five hundred dollars. Two congregations were organized, the Lutheran and Reformed; no Episcopal, nor was any other use made of their right than perhaps to hold an occasional service.

Of the German Lutheran congregation the first pastor was Rev. Henry A. Geissenhainer, from 1818 to 1821; his successors were Rev. Dr. F. W. Geissenhainer, Sr., 1821-23; Dr. Jacob Miller, 1823-29; Conrad Miller, 1829-37; Henry S. Miller, 1837-52; George F. Miller, 1852-69, except from March, 1861, to the following April 6th; John Kohler, 1869-74; and Rev. Oliver P. Smith, from 1874 to the present time. How soon English services were begun by the Lutherans is not easy to decide; it is very probable that Rev. Dr. Geissenhainer and his son both preached in English, at least occasionally, as they were capable of so doing. Dr. Jacob Miller and his brother Conrad did not preach in English. In 1827, Rev. Jacob Wampole became regular pastor of the English portion of the congregation, which then, or soon afterward, was separately organized. The pastors of the English Lutheran congregation were Revs. Jacob Wampole, 1827-34; J. W. Richards, 1834-36; Jacob Wampole, again in 1836-38; Henry S. Miller, 1838 to May 20, 1852; George F. Miller, 1852 to March 31, 1861; George Sill, 1862-64; John Kohler, 1864-74; succeeded by Oliver P. Smith. At first the Lutherans occupied the church one Sunday in four, and after the formation of the English organization two Sundays in four, usually in the afternoon. The pastors of the German Reformed congregation were Revs. Jacob William Dechant, 1818-33; H. S. Bassler, 1833-44; Samuel Seibert, 1844-52; N. S. Strassburger, 1853-62; Joseph H. Dubs, 1862-69; L. D. Leberman, 1869-81; and C. H. Herbst, from 1882 to the present time.

A Union Sunday-school was organized in 1840, and soon numbered one hundred and twenty-five scholars. No stoves were used in the church for several years, and the first was presented by Reuben Trexler, of Long Swamp. In the time of the prevalence of bilious fevers along the Schuylkill, in 1821-24, a hundred burials took place. In 1831 the old log school-house was torn down and a new one erected on a strip of land four by eighteen rods, which was conveyed at that time to trustees by Mathew Brooke for school purposes for twenty dollars, situated between the burial-ground and the Lewis road. In 1834 the debt

on the church was paid off, and the following year it was repaired and painted and the yard inclosed. The burial-ground was enlarged in 1818, again in 1824, and in 1854 a piece ninety-five feet in width and twenty-two perches long was added and divided into lots, which were all sold, when another lot was included, which now constitutes the present cemetery-grounds. An organ was built in 1860, for the congregation, by Samuel Bohler, of Reading, and dedicated December 1st. The church erected in 1817 was taken down, and a new church, also of stone and rough-cast, was erected in 1875, the congregations for the time holding services in the school-house. It was completed and dedicated the following year.

The church is situated about half a mile above Limerick Square, on the west side of the Reading turnpike, and from its elevated position affords from the churchyard a fine view of the surrounding country. The oldest stone observed in the graveyard bears the date of 1732, one of 1754 and several of 1787. A great many have been buried here, particularly of the name of Evans. The most common names noticed on the tombstones are those of Evans, Shaner, Kraus, Smith, Snell, Missimer, Nettle, Kohl, Groff, Klein, Miller, Wagner, Christman, Schaffer, Barlow, Hallman, Beyer, Boyer, Fox, Geiger, Royer, Walt, Mench, Brant, Hunsberger, Grubb, Linderman, Johnson, Schwenck, Kendall, Worley and Stetler.

ASSESSMENT OF LIMERICK TOWNSHIP FOR 1776.

George Evans, assessor, and Peter Eichner, collector.

John Kraus, 330 acres, 2 horses and 3 cows; John Cuning, 1 c.; Daniel March, 3 h., 5 c.; Edward Nichols' estate, 300 a.; Conrad Yost's estate; Henry Yost, weaver, 1 h., 1 c.; John Davis, weaver, 105 a., 3 h., 4 c.; George Evans, 200 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Mordecai Evans, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Constantine O. Neal; William Davis, 100 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Elijah Davis' estate, 100 a.; David Evans, 450 a., 1 negro, 4 h., 7 c.; Edward Miller, 1 h., 1 c.; Henry Rorem, 1 c.; David Davis, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Filman, 1 c.; William Stall, 90 a., 2 h., 2 c.; James Stall, 120 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Lever, 100 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Gunner Rambo, 170 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Edward Bolton, 200 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Henry Ford, Taylor, 70 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Michael Hinderliter, 190 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Michael Deemer, tailor, 1 h., 2 c.; Jacob Longaker's estate; Catherine Hoover, 40 a., 1 c.; Conrad Baker; Jacob Kraus, 150 a., 1 h., 1 c.; John Henry, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; George Brant, 90 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jost Felman, cordwainer, 1 c.; Michael Ickes, 150 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Nicholas Koontz, 150 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Abraham Kern, Michael Coghler, 1 c.; Jacob Miller; Harman Neiman, 170 a., 2 h., 4 c., 9 children; Conrad Eckleman, tailor, 1 c.; Jacob Brandt, 78 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Rachel Brooke, 190 a., 1 h., 2 c.; George Brooke, 1 h., 1 c.; Jacob Layman; James Brooke, 160 a., 1 negro, 2 h., 3 c., loss by fire; Abraham Updegrave, 1 h., 3 c.; George Reigner, 200 a., 2 h., 5 c., a cripple; Margaret Reiner, 114 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Benjamin Casselberry, 1 c.; George Moyer, 170 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Henry Kough; Philip Federolf, 127 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Matthias Coghler, 1 c.; Adolph Pennebacker, 250 a., 2 c.; Nicholas Snider, 200 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Pennebacker, 3 h., 3 c.; Harman Umstat, 200 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Schrack, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Stetler, inn-keeper, 100 a., 1 servant, 1 h., 3 c.; Jonathan Bolton, weaver, 57 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Henry Saler; Michael Raiser, 90 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Francis Hooen, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Daniel Baker, 50 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Christian Shunk, 60 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Erasmus Lever, 125 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Frederick Sower, 118 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Thomas Wilburham, cordwainer; Francis Hobson, 250 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Nicholas Cresman, 200 a., 2 h., 4 c.; George Gute, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Pinchbeck, 170 a., 1 servant, 2 h., 3 c.; Adam Pretzman, 300 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Conrad Boyer, 200 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Umstead's estate; John Fry, 178 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Miller, tailor, 1 c.; Jonathan Koster, 100 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Henry Kendal; Anthony Harp, 3 h., 2 c.; Michael Bastian's estate, 150 a.; John Nagel, 150 a., 1 h., 4 c.; Charles Holf, 25 a., 1 c.; Peter Gerhart, smith, 50 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Keeler, 100 a., 1 h.,

3 c.; Martin Keeler, 200 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Frederick Bingerman, 1 c.; Peter Acker, 200 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Winey, 40 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Samuel Stetler, 66 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Mathew Brooke, 350 a., 3 negroes, 4 h., 8 c., an idiot son; Peter Aichner, inn-keeper, 150 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Sheef, smith; Valentine Kuntz, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Keeley, 1 h., 1 c.; Sebastian Keeley's estate, 100 a.; Anthony Biting, 60 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Jacob Bernhart, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Baltzer Maurer, 1 c.; Michael Nanteenheltzet, 78 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Peter Saler, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Godfrey Longhane, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Ann Mary Miller, 100 a.; John Kulb, 1 c.; Godfrey Saler, 1 c.; John Yawn, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Conrad Teesenbacher, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Jacob Peltz, 118 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Daniel Kraus; Conrad Acker, 1 c.; Adam Kulb, 150 a., 1 h., 1 c.; James Evans, joiner, 170 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Matthias Koplin, 1 c.; George Evans, Jr., 230 a., 1 negro, 2 h., 5 c., maintains his mother; Hartman Huas, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c., 9 children; David Paul, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Abraham Paul, 80 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Michael Moyer, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jeremiah Weiser, 100 a., 1 h., 1 c.; John Heffelfinger, 117 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Frederick Koons, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Diteer; John Cole, 20 a., 1 c. *Single Men.*—Barnabas Hedinger, Christopher Rimby, Moses Rambo, William Coulston, John Coulston, Abraham Poley, Henry Hooen, Benjamin Brooke, Moses Hobson, Adam Henry, Thomas Brooke, Henry Longhane, Peter Smith, Samuel Evans, Garret Ringaman, Henry Neiman, Adam Harris, Conrad Sheetz, William Jones.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

THOMAS B. EVANS.

The Evans family settled in Limerick township about the year 1716. William Evans, who emigrated from Wales in 1698 and located in Gwynedd township, according to family tradition, removed to Limerick about 1715, though the deed for the lands of his family was made to his widow, Ann Evans, (or Evan), is dated January 16, 1716, and was executed by Tobias Collett, Daniel Quare and Henry Gouldney, of London, conveying four hundred acres of land in Limerick township. A large part of this land has been continuously in the possession of the Evans family since that date.

William Evans had three sons,—Owen, George and William. Owen Evans, of this number, had three sons,—David, Thomas and Benjamin, of whom David Evans had one son, Owen, and daughters,—Sarah, wife of James Garrett, of Robison township, Berks Co., and Mary, wife of Amos Evans, of Limerick. By his will, probated in 1800, he devised the above tract of land to his son Owen, who married Rachel, daughter of John Brooke, and had five sons,—John, David, Matthew, Robert and Thomas. He divided his farm into four parts, and gave one part each to David, Matthew and Thomas, and the children of Robert, then deceased.

Thomas Brooke Evans was born on the old Evans homestead, in Limerick township, in the house now owned by Charles W. Reid, April 21, 1809. He received ordinary advantages of education, and afterwards taught school for a brief period. He then learned the trade of a tanner, with William Snyder, at Falconer's Swamp, and soon after concluding his apprenticeship, engaged in the tanning business on his own account in Limerick township, removing to Knauertown, Chester Co., April 1, 1834, where he

embarked in the same business. He married Mary Ann, daughter of Daniel and Mary (*née* Kendall) Schwenk, on the 9th of November, 1834, and April 1, 1838, returned to Limerick township, and the next year erected the farm buildings on land allotted to him by his father, and now owned by R. Brooke Evans. In the fall of that year he removed to the farm, remaining until March 28, 1856, when he removed to a house built by him near Davis's school-house, and there remained until his death, December 13, 1863, after an illness of more than two years. Mr. Evans was a public-spirited citizen. He held the office of school director for many years, was justice of the

justice of the peace, living on the farm in Limerick; Mary Elizabeth, who married Frank Saylor, and resides in St. Louis, Mo.; Charlotte Evans, who lives with her mother in Limerick; Emma, who married Garret E. Brownback, and resides near Limerick Station; Montgomery Evans, lawyer at Norristown; and Zella, whose death occurred a few weeks after her father's. Two other children, Frank and Montgomery, died in youth.

DAVID EVANS.

The grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch was David Evans, his parents being Owen and



Thos. B. Evans

peace from 1841 to 1861, clerk for the county commissioners for twenty years, and for the directors of the poor for about the same period. He was a skillful accountant, a careful business man, and held many positions of pecuniary trust.

He was a man of excellent judgment, very firm in his conclusions and accurate and concise in speech. Influential in his neighborhood, his opinions were regarded with deference both in business and politics.

The surviving members of Mr. Evans' family are his widow, and children,—R. Brooke Evans, a farmer and

Rachel Evans, all of whom were born and spent their lives in Limerick township on the farm part of which is occupied by John Evans. David Evans was born in 1802 in Limerick township, where, with the exception of a brief period, his whole life was spent. He received in youth such advantages of education as the primitive schools of the day afforded, after which his services were required upon the farm, where he became proficient in all departments of labor. His father having become the owner of a tract of productive land in Limerick township embracing four hun-

dred acres, divided it equally among his sons. David received his portion and at once began a successful career as a farmer. He added to the dimensions of this property by purchase, and continued during his lifetime to reside upon it. He was married to Phebe, daughter of Abner Barlow, of Limerick township, and their children were Amos (who died in youth) and Rebecca (who married Samuel Kulp and is still living in Iowa). He married, a second time, Mrs. Susanna Barlow, daughter of John Hollowbush, of Limerick township, whose children are Owen, John, Emily (deceased) and Anne (who married John Frey

HENRY S. WALT.

Mr. Walt is of German descent, his grandfather, Henry Walt, having emigrated with his wife, Catharine, from the Fatherland. Among their children was Andrew, who resided in Upper Salford township, Montgomery Co., where the major portion of his life was spent as a farmer. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Abram Schwenk, whose children were Catharine (Mrs. Jacob Smith), Elizabeth (Mrs. D. Reifsnyder), Abram, Mary (Mrs. George Brandt), Henry S., Samuel, Fanny (Mrs. Abram Anderson) and Jacob. Henry S. Walt was born on the 6th of December, 1806, in



David Evans

and is now deceased). Mr. Evans, while assiduous in his attention to private interests, found time to devote to affairs involving the public good. He was, as a Democrat, chosen to represent his constituents in the State Legislature, serving during the sessions of 1848, 1849 and 1850, and being appointed on various important committees. He was also a member of the board of directors of the Reading Turnpike Company. Mr. Evans, during his active life, bore a reputation for honor and purity of character, which inspired confidence and caused him frequently to be appointed to positions of trust, which were filled not less with fidelity than with signal ability.

His death, which occurred in December, 1872, was sincerely deplored.

Upper Salford township, where he remained until his removal to Limerick, at the age of fourteen years. His father's death when the lad was a school-boy rendered his educational opportunities very limited, and made his presence upon the farm invaluable, as the chief dependence of his widowed mother. After renting the homestead farm for two years he removed to another belonging to his grandfather Schwenk in Skippack, Montgomery Co., the land of which he cultivated for ten years. In 1842, desiring to be more independent than was possible as a renter, he purchased his present home in Limerick township. This he cultivated and improved, devoting a period of thirty years to the employments of a farmer.

In the year 1872, having retired from the labor

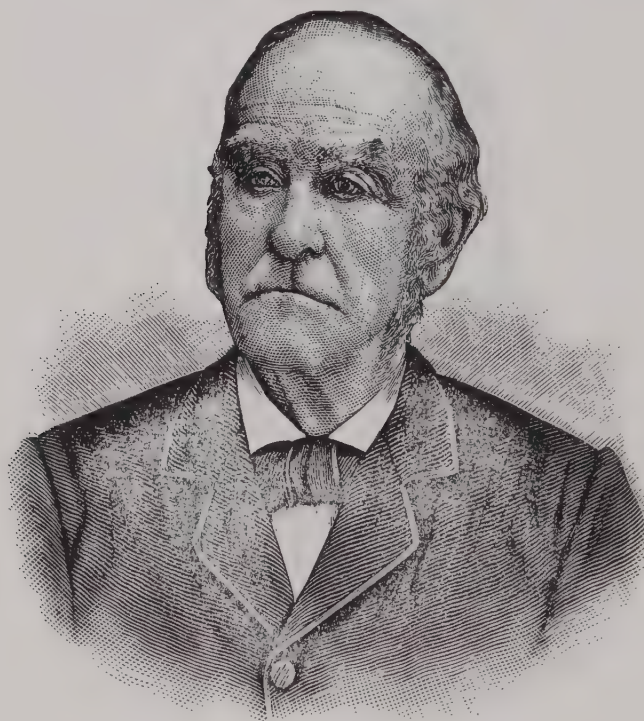
and responsibility it involved, his son became the owner, by purchase, of the property.

Mr. Walt was, on the 26th of March, 1829, married to Elizabeth, daughter of Abram Stauffer, of Limerick township, and has children,—Esther Ann (Mrs. Josiah Evans), Elizabeth (Mrs. Augustus Kehl) Matthew, Ann Jemima (Mrs. Jeremiah Krause), Henry, Andrew, Sarah Ann, Abram, Mary M. (Mrs. B. F. Dismant) and J. Warren. Mr. Walt is a Republican in politics, and has served as school director of his township. He has for half a century,

he purchased the farm still held by his family. In 1834–35 he built the mansion to which, for a number of years, his family came out in the summer season, and now occupied by his grandson, T. Richard Hood, the only living descendant of his name. He called this place "Bessie Bell," the name of a small eminence near his native home.

He was married, in 1805, to Eliza Forebaugh, who was of German descent; they had twelve children.

Mr. Hood's health was broken, in 1840, by the death of his son, Washington Hood, captain of topo-



Henry S. Walt

been identified with St. James' Lutheran Church of Limerick, as elder, deacon and treasurer.

JOHN M'CLELLAN HOOD.

John McClellan Hood was born at Newton Stewart, County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1778.

He came to this country in 1799, settled in Philadelphia and was engaged in the wholesale grocery business,—the firm of Hood & Hamilton, and afterwards Hood & Wilson.

Leaving the city when the yellow fever prevailed, he was so pleased with the beauties of Limerick that

graphical engineers, who, in the prime of life, contracted his last illness in the service of the government while laying out the boundaries of the far Western States.

Mr. Hood died in 1848, an ardent Presbyterian in his religious belief. He was always strongly attached to and proud of his native land.

DANIEL KENDALL.

Joseph Kendall, the great-grandfather of Daniel Kendall, resided in Philadelphia County. His children were six in number,—John, Joseph, William,



JOHN M'CLELLAN HOOD.

Henry, Mrs. Bingaman and Mrs. Koons, of whom Joseph and Henry settled in Limerick township. Henry, who was born in 1751, followed the occupations of a farmer in the latter township, and was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary Lane Stahl, to whom was born one son, Joseph, on the 24th of April, 1789, at the homestead in Limerick township. The latter remained a resident of this township, where he engaged in farming pursuits during his active life. He married, in 1808, Miss Anna March, of the same

healthful pursuits of a farmer until 1873, when, after a short interval, he made Norristown his residence. Mr. Kendall was married, on the 10th of April, 1884, to Priscilla J. Heustis, a lady of English parentage. In politics Mr. Kendall was formerly a Republican, but has recently supported the Prohibition party. He has never been an active worker in the political field, though frequently a delegate to county conventions. Mr. Kendall's sympathies are with the Presbyterian Church, of which Mrs. Kendall is a member.



Daniel Kendall

township, whose children are Mary, deceased, Catharine (Mrs. A. Hunsberger), Elizabeth (Mrs. David Miller), Henry, Joseph, Daniel and Anna. The married life of Joseph Kendall and his wife extended over a period of nearly sixty years, and all their children, with the exception of the eldest, still survive. Daniel was born in Limerick on the 3d of January, 1820, and during his boyhood became a pupil of the neighboring school, after which he engaged with his father in the labor of the farm, remaining thus occupied until the death of the latter, in February, 1868. Having for some years worked the estate on shares, he ultimately became the owner of the homestead by inheritance, and continued to follow the

CHAPTER LX.

LOWER MERION.¹

THIS township is bounded on the north and east by the Schuylkill, on the northwest by Upper Merion and the borough of West Conshohocken, southeast by Philadelphia, and south and southwest by Delaware County. Its greatest length is six and a half miles, with a width of four miles, embracing an area of fourteen thousand five hundred acres. In its situation it is the most southerly in the county, and the greatest in ex-

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

tent and population. By the erection of West Conshohocken into a borough, in 1874, its territory was reduced about two hundred and fifty acres. The surface is generally rolling, the highest elevation being near West Conshohocken, rising probably three hundred and fifty feet above the Schuylkill, and at the cemetery to the rear of Pencoyd two hundred and twenty-five feet, the most level portion being in the vicinity of Ardmore. The soil is generally a productive loam, approaching a stiff clay only in the vicinity of Bryn Mawr. Extending through its breadth is a belt of serpentine, accompanied by steatite or soapstone, which is quarried on the Schuylkill, a mile above Mill Creek. In connection with the aforesaid formation, talc, dolomite and some other kinds of stone abound.

The surface of this township is agreeably diversified by a number of beautiful streams, thirteen of which empty, within its borders, into the Schuylkill. Though none are large, yet several furnish valuable water-power. So well is Lower Merion watered that scarcely a large farm can be found which does not contain one or more excellent springs of living water. Mill Creek is the largest stream, and lies wholly within the limits of the township. It has its source near the Green Tree Tavern, on the Gulf road, and is a winding, rapid stream, about six miles in length. In this distance it receives fourteen small streams, and a line of steep hills marks most of its course, but none are over one hundred feet above its surface. It was noted for its paper-mills before the Revolution. Nicholas Scull mentions on it, in 1758, "Roberts' grist and paper-mills." In 1858 it propelled the machinery of one plaster, two grist and two saw-mills, besides eleven manufactories. The Merion Cotton-Mill, with nine hundred and forty spindles, was propelled by it before 1822. Trout Run, a branch of Mill Creek, has a course of about two miles, and has received this name from the fish found in it from an early period. In the south part of the township the east and west branches of Indian Creek have their origin; also a branch of Cobb's Creek. Rock Hill Creek and Frog Hollow Run are rapid streams, from one to two miles long, that empty into the Schuylkill opposite Manayunk.

As may be well supposed, from its extent and location near a great city, it must possess a considerable population and valuable improvements. The census of 1800 mentions 1422 inhabitants; in 1840, 2827; in 1860, 4423; and in 1880, 6287, denoting a rapid increase. As the township contains about 23 square miles, its present population is 270 to the square mile. In the assessment of 1882, 1508 taxables were returned, and 863 horses and 1536 cattle. The real estate is valued at \$4,566,499, and including the personal \$4,848,969, being equivalent to \$3212 per taxable, being in point of average wealth the ninth in the county. In 1883 nine hotels, two restaurants, two confectionery, two dry-goods, three drug, one stove, one grocery, one provision, three flour and feed, and fourteen

general stores were licensed, besides two lumber and two coal-yards. The villages are Ardmore, Bryn Mawr, Pencoyd, Wynnewood, Academy, Merion, Rose Glen, Libertyville and West Manayunk, the first seven containing post-offices. Previous to 1830 there was not a post-office in the township. In 1851 the number was only two,—General Wayne and Lower Merion. The public schools are fourteen in number, open ten months, and for the school year ending June 1, 1882, had an average daily attendance of 538 pupils. The churches are ten, belonging to seven religious denominations, of which the Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Methodist Episcopal have each two. The census of 1850 returned 613 families, residing in 588 dwelling-houses, and 195 farms. According to the census of 1870, this was the only township in Pennsylvania where the farm value rated above four million dollars.

The turnpike road leading from Philadelphia to Lancaster passes through Lower Merion a distance of four and a half miles. It is said to have been the first road of the kind constructed in America, and was commenced in 1792 and completed within two years after that date. It is kept in admirable repair, and passes through Ardmore and Bryn Mawr. The Pennsylvania Railroad has a course of six miles and four tracks, with stations at Overbrook, on the city line, Merion, Elm, Wynnewood, Ardmore, Haverford College and Bryn Mawr. This road was opened for travel to Columbia in March, 1834, and to Pittsburgh in 1854, a distance then of three hundred and ninety-three miles. The Reading Railroad follows the Schuylkill the entire length of the township, a distance of seven and a half miles. It was incorporated in 1833, placed under contract the following year and finished in 1839. Nearly a mile above West Manayunk is Flat Rock tunnel, nine hundred and sixty feet in length, made through solid rock, at a depth of ninety-five feet below the surface. The stations of this road are Pencoyd, West Manayunk, Mill Creek (lately changed to Rose Glen) and Spring Mill Heights. The Schuylkill Valley Railroad was opened for travel from the city to Manayunk May 12, 1884, a distance of eight miles from Broad Street Station. The stations are Bala, on the city line, and West Laurel Hill. It crosses the river below West Manayunk on a bridge about one-third of a mile long and ninety feet above the water. The view afforded to passengers in looking up or down the valley is grand. The first telegraph line between Philadelphia and Lancaster was established through this township in 1850.

Bryn Mawr is regarded as the most populous place in Lower Merion, and is supposed to contain about three hundred houses within a radius of a mile of its station. Except the older portion on the Lancaster pike, it presents to the stranger the appearance of a scattered collection of country-seats. That it has considerably increased in population may be judged from its containing in 1858 only twenty-one houses,

and being then known as Humphreysville. It has an elevated situation, is nine miles from Philadelphia, and adjoins Delaware County. Lancaster and Montgomery Avenues and the Pennsylvania Railroad pass parallel to each other through its whole length, the former containing the larger proportion of its buildings. There are, besides, several other streets crossing in various directions. For years this vicinity has been a noted resort during the summer months for boarders from the city, at times estimated as high as two thousand. The hotel here is a spacious three-story stone building, belonging to a company, standing within handsome, inclosed grounds, and stated to possess accommodations for five hundred guests. Between the hours of six A.M. and midnight twenty-seven passenger trains stop daily at the station going east and twenty-three west. The mail arrives daily three times from the east and departs for the city four times.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of St. Luke is a fine one-story Gothic building, with a steeple and stained-glass windows, situated at the corner of Montgomery Avenue and Penn Street, of which the Rev. J. D. Martin is pastor. The Presbyterian Church was organized in 1873, and a chapel erected of green-stone on Montgomery Avenue was dedicated April 16, 1874. A parsonage, built of brick, was erected on the church lot, and on the 18th of December, 1884, the cornerstone of a church edifice was laid. The building is to be of stone, sixty-five by sixty-five feet. The Rev. William H. Miller was chosen pastor in 1874, and is still in charge. The church has a membership of about one hundred. Both churches have worship twice every Sunday and Sabbath-schools that meet at three o'clock P.M.

Temperance Hall is a two-story stone building, the upper portion of which is used for society purposes. Here meet the American Star Council, No. 53, of O. U. A. M., Bryn Mawr Division, No. 10, of S. of T., Bryn Mawr Loan and Building Association, and Bryn Mawr Cornet Band. Two weekly newspapers are issued here,—*The News*, by Frank A. Hower, established July 1, 1881, and the *Home News* by L. A. Black, originally founded by G. Frank Young, June 6, 1876. Bryn Mawr in the Welsh signifies the great hill, and was the home of Rowland Ellis, a noted scholar and minister among Friends, as well as of several other early settlers, situated near Dolgelly, the chief town of Merioneth.

Ardmore is on the Lancaster turnpike and Pennsylvania Railroad, seven miles from Philadelphia, surrounded by a level country. It contains nearly one hundred houses, two hotels, one grocery, two drug and three general stores, a Lutheran church, a steam planing-mill and shutter and door manufactory, carried on by Goodman & Brother, and one lumber and coal-yard. In Masonic Hall, Cassia Lodge, No. 273, F. and A. M., meets; also Montgomery Chapter, No. 262, R. A. M. At Odd-Fellows' Hall, Banyan Tree

Lodge, No. 378, of I. O. O. F. The Lower Merion Building and Loan Association meets alternately here and at Merion Square. Haverford College, belonging to the Orthodox Friends, is only half a mile distant, in Delaware County. This village in 1858 contained only twenty-eight houses; the census of 1880 gives it five hundred and nineteen inhabitants. The "Red Lion" tavern was established here before the Revolution, and was kept by John Taylor over a quarter of a century, who disposed of it before 1840. Before the completion of the railroad it was a noted stopping-place for the large teams to the West, as many as fifty of them staying at one time overnight. This stand is still conducted as a public-house. This village was formerly called Athensville, and Cabinet post-office was established about 1852, but since changed to Ardmore. The Athens Institute and Library Association was incorporated here in 1855, but have lately sold their building and dissolved.

Pencoyd is situated a short distance above the city line, on the Reading Railroad and Schuylkill River. The village comprises about seventy houses and contains a post-office, two stores and a hotel. Adjoining, to the rear, is West Laurel Hill Cemetery, comprising one hundred and ten acres, tastefully laid out into winding walks and planted with shrubbery. The railroad has a station here, and steamboats from Fairmount ascend this far up the Schuylkill. The name was applied from the extensive rolling-mills here, belonging to A. & P. Roberts & Co., established in 1852, and contains fifteen double puddling furnaces, eleven heating furnaces, three forge-hammers, one rotary squeezer and four trains of rolls of from twelve to twenty-three inches in diameter. The products are channel-bars, beams, ties, angle-iron, hammered and rolled axles, bar and bridge-iron. The annual capacity is twenty thousand net tons, and gives employment to upwards of five hundred hands. The tract of land on which these works are situated is denoted on Hill's "Map of the Environs of Philadelphia," published in 1809, as belonging to "A. Roberts, Pencoe, 298 acres, settled 1684." A member of the firm stated to the writer, in September, 1883, that a portion of this land has never been out of the family since first taken up and settled upon by John Roberts, their ancestor, who arrived from Wales two centuries ago. The original place of settlement was near by, and a part of the tract extended over the line into Philadelphia. Application was made in 1706 for a road from Merion Meeting-house to the present village, a distance of two and a half miles, "where a ferry was to be established." This, subsequently, was called Righter's ferry, authorized in 1741.

West Manayunk is at the mouth of Rock Hill or Gully Creek, opposite Manayunk, with which it is connected by a bridge over the Schuylkill, built in 1833. There are here about twenty houses, several manufacturing establishments, a railroad-station and two stores. The Ashland Paper-Mills, S. A. Rudolph

& Son, proprietors, employ about ninety hands in the manufacture of printing-paper from rags, wood and straw. These works were founded in 1864, and have produced as high as three million pounds of paper per annum. It is driven by three steam-engines, whose aggregate is two hundred and fifty horse-power, propelling Dixon's patent straw and wood digester, two pulp-dressers and seven paper-machines. Near by, up the creek, are the woolen-mills of Mason Schofield and of John & James Dobson. The latter were not in operation in the fall of 1883. Here, in 1858, Samuel Grant, Jr., & Co., carried on the Ashland Dye-Mills, and not far off, at that date, were Isaac Wetherill's cotton-factory and Grimrod's grist-mill. A "Directory of 1850" mentions in the township at that time S. Croft's brass-rolling mill, W. Chadwick's, S. L. Robeson's, J. Shaw's and J. Elliott's cotton manufactories, W. H. Todd's woolen-mill and A. S. Nippes' rifle manufactory.

Merion Square is located nearly in the centre of the township, at the intersection of several roads, and contains about thirty-five houses, two stores, two churches, school-house, several mechanic shops, and according to the census of 1880, two hundred and seven inhabitants. The post-office is called Lower Merion. The Methodist Episcopal Church was built before 1858, of which the Rev. A. W. Prettyman is the present pastor. The Presbyterian Church was built in 1877; is in charge of Rev. A. W. Long. Both have services twice every Sabbath and Sunday-schools attached. The Odd-Fellows' Hall is occupied by Merion Lodge, No. 210, of I. O. O. F., and Montgomery Encampment, No. 115. Merion Square Division, No. 128, S. of T., also meet in the latter building. This village in 1858 contained twenty-six dwellings.

Libertyville is a mile northeast of Ardmore on the old Lancaster road; contains nine houses, two stores and a wheelright and blacksmith-shop.

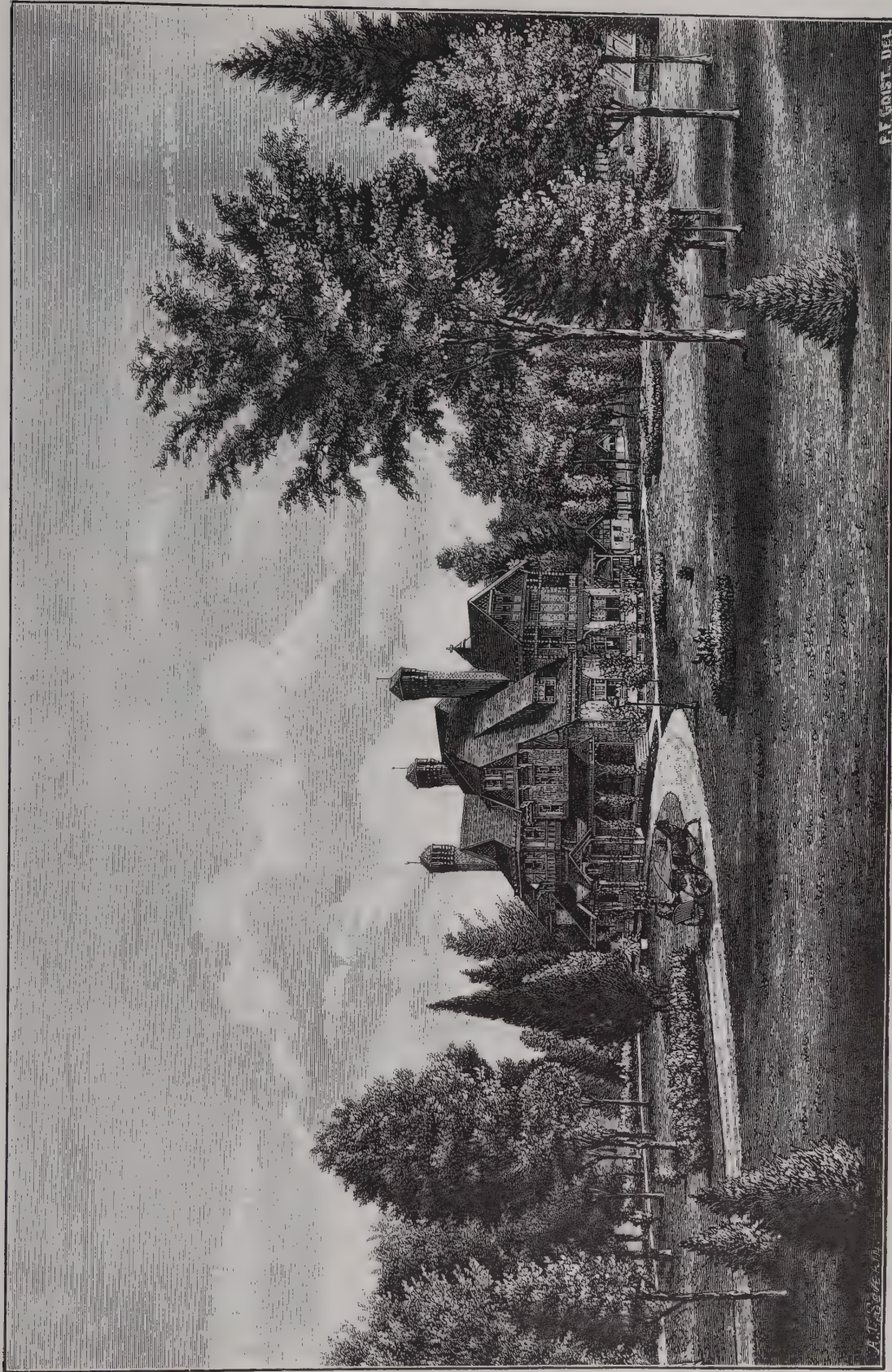
Wynnewood, where a post-office has been established, is about three-fourths of a mile below Ardmore. The station and grounds are neatly kept. Fine country-seats abound in this vicinity. The name has been applied from the residence of the late Hon. Owen Jones, which is so denoted on Hill's map of 1809, as handed down from the first settlement.

Academyville is a mile southwest of West Manayunk; contains about ten houses. Lower Merion Academy, which had its origin in motives of benevolence, is located here. In 1810, Jacob Jones devised a tract of land in charge of trustees, with a sum of money, to which was added other bequests "to be applied to the hiring or employing a tutor or tutors for as many poor and orphan children of both sexes living in the township as the issue and profits of said sum would allow." The trustees, therefore, erected a large building in 1812, which was opened as a boarding and day-school the following year. Keeping boarders was soon abandoned and the day-school

alone continued, which was then styled the Lower Merion Benevolent Institution. In 1836 the school was merged into and called a free school, and as such has ever since been continued. It is still controlled by trustees, in accordance with the requirements of the bequest, and has thus received its present name.

The General Wayne is the name of an inn on the old Lancaster road, said to have been so called in consequence of that officer having encamped here with his command, probably in 1792, on his western expedition against the Indians. This inn was kept in 1806 by Titus Yerkes, and is noted on Hill's map of 1809. It was kept by Major William Matheys in 1824, and by David Young in 1838, in whose family it has remained until the fall of 1883. The elections of the whole township were continuously held here from 1806 until 1867,—a period of sixty-one years. The elections of the Lower District are still retained here. Before 1851 a post-office was established with this name, perhaps the first in Lower Merion, but it has recently been removed and its name changed to Academy. A plank-road for two tracks was made from here to West Philadelphia in 1855, but has been for some time worn out. The old Friends' Meeting-house here denotes a very old settlement, probably the village of Merioneth, mentioned by Gabriel Thomas, in his "Account of Pennsylvania," published in 1696. Most probably from its being on the old Lancaster road, the same is called Merion by Lewis Evans on his map of 1749. It contains, besides the hotel and meeting-house, some five or six houses and a smith-shop. Near this is Belmont Driving and Race-Course, containing a one-mile track, eighty feet wide between the railing, begun in 1876.

Flat Rock is about a mile above West Manayunk, and is a place abounding in interesting scenery and historical associations. Owing to the contracted and rocky channel of the river for half a mile, it is wonderful that persons in canoes and boats could venture to pass in safety, as we know they did before the construction of the canal, in 1818. The name is derived from a bed of huge rocks extending across the river. At this spot a bridge was built in 1810, which was the first that spanned the Schuylkill within the limits of Montgomery County. In 1824, while several teams were crossing, loaded with marble, it gave way. On being repaired by the contractor, Lewis Wernwag, and requiring but two days for its completion, the river, rose thirteen feet during July 29th of that year, bringing down a great quantity of logs, trees, boats and drift-wood, which swept nearly the whole of the structure away, occasioning a serious and heavy loss to the builder. However, by September 10th he finished it to the satisfaction of the managers. In consequence of a great freshet, September 2, 1850, the Conshohocken bridge, four miles above, was swept away, and came down with such force as to take this bridge entirely away, and it has not since been rebuilt. What helped to



REDLEAF.
RESIDENCE OF WM. P. HENSZEY,
WYNNWOOD, PA.

heighten the catastrophe was the holding of the Conshohocken bridge firmly together by the railroad track that had been laid across it. From the western abutment of the bridge, which still remains by the road-side, a splendid view is obtained in a northwesterly direction of the falls of Flat Rock dam and of the Schuylkill for the distance of three miles. Near by is Duck Island, covered with numerous willows, and it is a favorite resort of wild fowl. This is supposed to be the "Beaver Island," mentioned in the Upland court records of 1677 as being in the Schuylkill; if so, it must have been formerly the abode of this animal. Flat Rock dam was constructed about half a mile above the site of the bridge by the Navigation Company, and was the means of furnishing much valuable water-power to the manufactories in Manayunk. By its raising the water above and thus by reducing his water-power from sixteen feet to about twenty inches, a heavy loss was caused to John Shoburn, who was unable, in consequence, to continue the running of his cotton-mill, near the mouth of Mill Creek. A copper-plate engraving of this dam and adjacent scenery was published in Philadelphia in 1828, showing its attractive features, a reduced copy of which may be seen in the chapter on the Schuylkill. A writer of the time in speaking of Flat Rock, refers to it as "a spot, a few years ago, where the Rambler was invited only by its singularly wild and romantic beauties." James Mease in his "Picture of Philadelphia," published in 1811, recommends it as well worth a visit. Just half-way between the site of the old bridge and the dam is the Flat Rock tunnel of the Reading Railroad, nearly one hundred feet below the surface of the hill.

The mouth of Mill Creek is also an interesting place for visitors, being only half a mile above the falls of Flat Rock dam. The highway and the railroad pass over the stream by two bridges nearly adjoining, and twenty feet above the water. Near by is a beautiful small island in the Schuylkill, which is quite a feature in the scenery, containing about half an acre, covered with buttonwood and willow-trees. From here up and by the side of the creek for a quarter of a mile to the paper mill is a good, level road, beautifully shaded, which with the surrounding scenery, makes a very attractive walk. The station here, so long called Mill Creek, has recently been changed to Rose Glen, and a post-office established in July, 1884, with Robert Chadwick, postmaster. A boat-ferry for the conveyance of passengers to Shawmont, on the opposite side of the river, has existed above twenty-five years.

West Laurel Hill Cemetery is situated half a mile northwest of the city line, and immediately to the rear of Pencoyd, which is opposite Manayunk. The company was incorporated in 1869, when for the purpose two adjoining estates and part of another were secured, containing in all one hundred and ten acres. The choice is stated to have been the result of a careful examination of the entire vicinity of Philadelphia.

Its surface is rolling and variegated, the highest point being two hundred and twenty-five feet above the waters of the Schuylkill. From it a fine view is afforded, particularly in a north and west direction. Since in their possession extensive improvements have been made to adapt it to the purposes for which it is intended. Numerous winding walks have been tastefully laid out and planted with shrubbery, neat buildings erected, as dwellings, lodge, receiving vault, stabling and sheds. Numerous monuments have been reared to the memory of the dead, the interments having reached in September, 1883, nineteen hundred. Two stations adjoin the grounds, one at Pencoyd belonging to the Reading Railroad, the other on the Schuylkill Valley road. The latter road has been in operation since May, 1884, and the station is called West Laurel Hill. The cemetery is only four miles distant from Market Street bridge, and Belmont Avenue leads directly to the place. The office of the company is at No. 115 South Fifth Street.

In the northern part of Bryn Mawr, beside the New Gulf road, buildings have been erected for a female college, to be in charge of the Orthodox Friends. For this purpose Dr. Joseph W. Taylor, of Burlington, N. J., who died January 18, 1880, aged seventy years, left a handsome bequest. He had purchased here thirty-seven acres and had commenced the improvements a short time before his death, under the superintendence of George W. Ott, who is still retained in charge. In June, 1884, Taylor Hall was nearly completed, it being built of granite from Port Deposit, Md. It is one hundred and thirty feet long and about sixty feet in average width, with a square tower one hundred and thirty feet in height. The other will be called Merion Hall, and is one hundred and seventy-five feet long by forty-six in width. Taylor Hall is designed for instruction while Merion Hall will be used for dormitories and household purposes. Both are substantially built of dressed stone and threestories high, after designs by Addison Hutton, the architect. It is intended to have the buildings finished by March 1, 1885, and that the institution shall be ready for students in the following September. The amount left by Dr. Taylor was about eight hundred thousand dollars, of which a considerable portion is invested and the income only applied to its use. Dr. James E. Rhodes, of Philadelphia, who was named in the will as one of the trustees, was elected president of the board in March, 1884. He has been a physician in Germantown for some time, and is now a minister among Friends and senior editor of the *Friends' Review*. Mathew Carey Thomas, of Baltimore, has been selected dean of the faculty and professor of English. It is intended to adopt and maintain a standard of admission and instruction equal to the best male colleges in the country. Dr. Taylor had been connected with the Haverford College, for boys, which is only a mile distant, and thus, no doubt, was induced to erect here also a somewhat similar institution for girls.

Among the ancient houses of worship still standing in Pennsylvania, the Friends' Meeting-house in Lower Merion is one of the oldest. It is situated on the old Lancaster road, at what has been for some time called General Wayne, but little over a mile from the city line. The early Welsh, it appears, who settled throughout this section were nearly all Friends, and are known to have held worship in this vicinity, at the house of Hugh Roberts, as early at least as the Fourth Month, 1684. According to the researches of the late Dr. George Smith, they built at first a temporary structure of wood in 1695, which stood until 1713, when its place was supplied by the present substantial stone edifice, which was completed in the fall of that year. Its ground-plan is in the form of a gothic T, with a length of thirty-six feet and the end facing southwest, is twenty by twenty-four feet. It is one story, or about fourteen feet to the roof, with walls over two feet in thickness, and, viewed from the inside, remarkable for



FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSE, LOWER MERION.

the height of its windows above the floor. A stone up in the gable, fronting the road, has cut on it "Built 1695, repaired 1822." This has been the means of leading many astray, they supposing that the present edifice had been erected at that date, whereas it was the date of the erection of the original building, whose place it supplanted eighteen years later. This has now been so long and widely published that the impression will not be so readily removed. It was of stone, pointed, but in repairing it, probably in 1822 or not much later, it was plastered in imitation of large dressed stone, which has marred its venerable appearance. The graveyard adjoining contains only a few recent tombstones that bear inscriptions. There is a tradition extant that when the Welsh Friends of this vicinity went to Haverford Meeting, on the occasion of William Penn preaching there in 1701, many could not understand him because he spoke in English. The congregation has become small; the writer attended worship here on a beautiful Sabbath-day in 1871, with but seventeen persons present. For the long period of eighty-six years from the early settlement here, it was the only house of worship in the township.

The Baptist Church is located at the intersection of the Gulf and Roberts roads, and about a half a mile to the north of Bryn Mawr. It is a two-story stone building, erected in 1809, to which a small addition has been made since 1858. It is in a retired situation, surrounded by aged chestnuts and oaks, trees of the original forest. The graveyard comprises nearly two acres of ground and is neatly kept. There are numerous handsome white marble tombstones here, on which we find the surnames of Clare, Preston, Restine, Hagy, Hibbard, Foreman, Levering, Righter, Blankley, Williamson, Jones, Young, Llewellyn, Smith, Morris, Shubert, McClenachan, Taylor, Bailey, Shoester, Curwin, Ewing, Elmer, Davis, Johnston, Barrett, Stewart, Sheaff, Sturges, Baldwin, Humphreys, Evans, Lee, Suplee, Butler, Stanley, Marshall, Yocum, Bauman, Gore, Migs, Edwards, Casidy, Scott, Latch, Roberts, Thomas, Shaw, Horn, Bevan, Owens, Wilson, McBride, Praul, Burns, Hoyle, Williamson, Zell, Haley, Gaskill, Litzenberg, Rogers, Wrigley, Moore, Nagle, Crawford, Kenzie, Fretz, Coulter, Miller, Pyatt, Matheys, Pechan, Stedman, Armstrong, Castner, Pawling, Dick and Ripley. Several members of the Gaskill family are buried here, being the descendants of Peter Gaskill, who married Christiana Gulielma, the daughter of William Penn, Jr., son of the founder of Pennsylvania by his first wife. The congregation was organized and the church founded chiefly through the exertions of its first pastor, Rev. Horatio Gates Jones, D.D., who entered in charge for the long period of forty-four years, or until his death, which took place at his residence in Roxborough, December 12, 1853, aged seventy-seven years. In 1858 the Rev. Mr. Anderson had charge. The

present pastor is Rev. William Wiley, who has also services in a chapel on Lancaster Avenue. Before the erection of the church the congregation worshiped in a small building near by, which had originally been a school-house, but some time since demolished.

About three-quarters of a mile east of Bryn Mawr stands the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, which ranks among the finest church edifices in the county. It is built of dressed stone, fifty by one hundred feet in dimensions, with an elegant tower. The grounds comprise about five acres, laid out with walks, and within which is a grove of forest-trees. A neat two-story parsonage is attached. The present rector is the Rev. Edward J. Watson, D.D. Services are held here twice every Sabbath, the Sunday-school at 9.15 A.M. On the tombs here are found the names of Morris, Yarnall, Farnum, Wheeler, Struthers, Miles, Wildgoss, Lycett, Roundlet, Haydon, Kelly, Williams, Peace, Maxwell, Crumley, Evans, Waln, Lyons, Watts and Harkins. This congregation was represented in the Episcopal Convention of 1883, by N. Parker Shortridge, Rowland Evans and Archibald B. Montgomery as lay delegates. A

church was originally built by the congregation on the north side of the Lancaster pike, half a mile distant, about the year 1848, and stood until 1879, when the present commodious edifice was erected in its place, on what had been previously known as the parsonage ground. Near Merionville is the Episcopal Church of St. John, built about ten years ago. The present rector is Rev. C. C. Parker, whose address is Academy. It will thus be seen that of the eleven Episcopal Churches now in the county, two are in Lower Merion.

The name of this township is derived from Merioneth, in North Wales, probably one of the most mountainous counties, some of the peaks rising to three thousand feet, with generally a poor soil and not half its territory under cultivation. The early settlers here were nearly all Welsh, and among them it is known that Edward Jones, John Thomas, Robert Owen, Thomas Owen, Hugh Roberts and Rowland Ellis came from Merioneth, which will account for the name of the township. What are now Upper and Lower Merion townships, Gabriel Thomas, in his "Account of Pennsylvania," in 1696, calls Merioneth, this, however, we know was divided and known by their present names before 1714. In 1685 the boundary between Merion and Chester County was ordered to be determined.

But a short time before the arrival of Penn, a number of Welsh who proposed settling in Pennsylvania, purchased a tract of forty thousand acres of land, which subsequently was located in Merion, Haverford, Goshen and several of the adjoining townships. How much of this tract lay in this township is not known to us, but no doubt it covered more than half its present area. Thomas Holme, the surveyor-general, in his map of original surveys commenced in 1682, gives us the following names as purchasers: John Holland, Christopher Pennock, William Wood, William Sharlow, Daniel Meredith, John Roberts, John Humphreys, Thomas Ellis, Edward Jones and a number of others whose names are not mentioned. About 1683 and the following year several had already settled on their purchases, and the number was yearly augmenting.

According to the researches of Dr. James J. Levick, of Philadelphia, probably the earliest settler in Lower Merion was Edward Jones, "chirurgion," who set sail in the ship "Lyon," John Compton, master, and arrived with forty passengers in the Schuylkill River, August 13, 1682, almost two months before William Penn. In a letter written by him, dated the 26th of that month, he states,—

"The Indians brought venison to our door for 6 pence ye quarter. There are stones to be had enough at the falls of Skool Kill, that is where we are to settle, and water-power enough for mills, but thou must bring Mill-stones and ye irons that belong to it, for smiths are dear. They use both hookes and sickles to reap with."

His wife was Mary, the daughter of Dr. Thomas Wynne, and he brought with him his children, Martha and Jonathan. On John Hill's "Map of the Environs

of Philadelphia," published 1809, he is thus alluded to: "Jones,—The first British settlement, 18th of Sixth Month, 1682." The place designated is now the estate of his descendant, the late Hon. Owen Jones, near Libertyville. That date, as may be observed, is only five days after his arrival, and it is certainly an early claim. He died 26th of Twelfth Month, 1737, aged ninety-two years; consequently on his arrival he was thirty-seven years old. Thomas Chalkley, in his journal, states that he was buried at Merion, and that his funeral was attended by many hundreds. Samuel Smith, in his "History of the Province," mentions him as "given to hospitality, and generally beloved by his acquaintances." His son Jonathan, who at the time of his arrival here was three years old married Gainor, the daughter of Robert Owen. He died June 30, 1770, aged nearly ninety-one years. Martha married John Cadwallader, at Merion Meeting-house, 26th of Tenth Month, 1699. Robert Jones purchased of William Penn, in England, in 1682, five hundred acres of land, which were afterwards located in this township. He was also an early settler, popular among his neighbors, and in June, 1715, appointed one of the justices of the County Courts, which office he held for several years. In consequence of French and Indian alarms, a company of Associators was formed here for the defense of the province in February, 1747, of which Edward Jones was chosen captain and Griffith Griffiths first lieutenant. John Jones, an extensive farmer and one of the associate judges of the county, died December 26, 1824, in his eightieth year. Robert Jones was a supervisor of highways in 1767, John Jones in 1785, and Israel Jones assessor in 1780. The late Owen Jones, of Wynnewood, was the son of Jonathan Jones and Mary, daughter of William Thomas. He was elected to Congress in 1856, and served as a colonel of cavalry in the Rebellion. He died December 25, 1878, aged fifty-nine years. The late Dr. George Smith, the historian of Delaware County, was also a descendant of Thomas Wynne and of Edward Jones.

Thomas Wynne, a native of Coerwys, Flintshire, North Wales, arrived in November, 1682, in the ship "Welcome" with William Penn, accompanied by his wife, Elizabeth, and her daughters, Jane and Margery. As his son-in-law, Edward Jones, had preceded him, nearly two months, and had settled in the present township, he was induced to follow and settle beside him. He was a physician and also a minister among Friends. He represented Philadelphia County in the first Assembly, held at Chester, December 4, 1682, of which body he was elected Speaker the following session, and subsequently became one of the judges of the court. He wrote several tracts of a controversial character in defense of the doctrines of the Society of Friends. In connection with John ap John, he is mentioned as having purchased five thousand acres of land sometime before 1701. His will bears date of 15th of First Month, 1691, wherein he calls

himself a "practitioner of physick," and appoints Thomas Lloyd and Griffith Owen his executors. He died 16th of First Month, 1692, and was interred in Friends' burying-ground, in Philadelphia. His residence was on the site now occupied by the mansion of the late Colonel Owen Jones, which has thus led to the origin and perpetuation of the name of Wynne-wood.

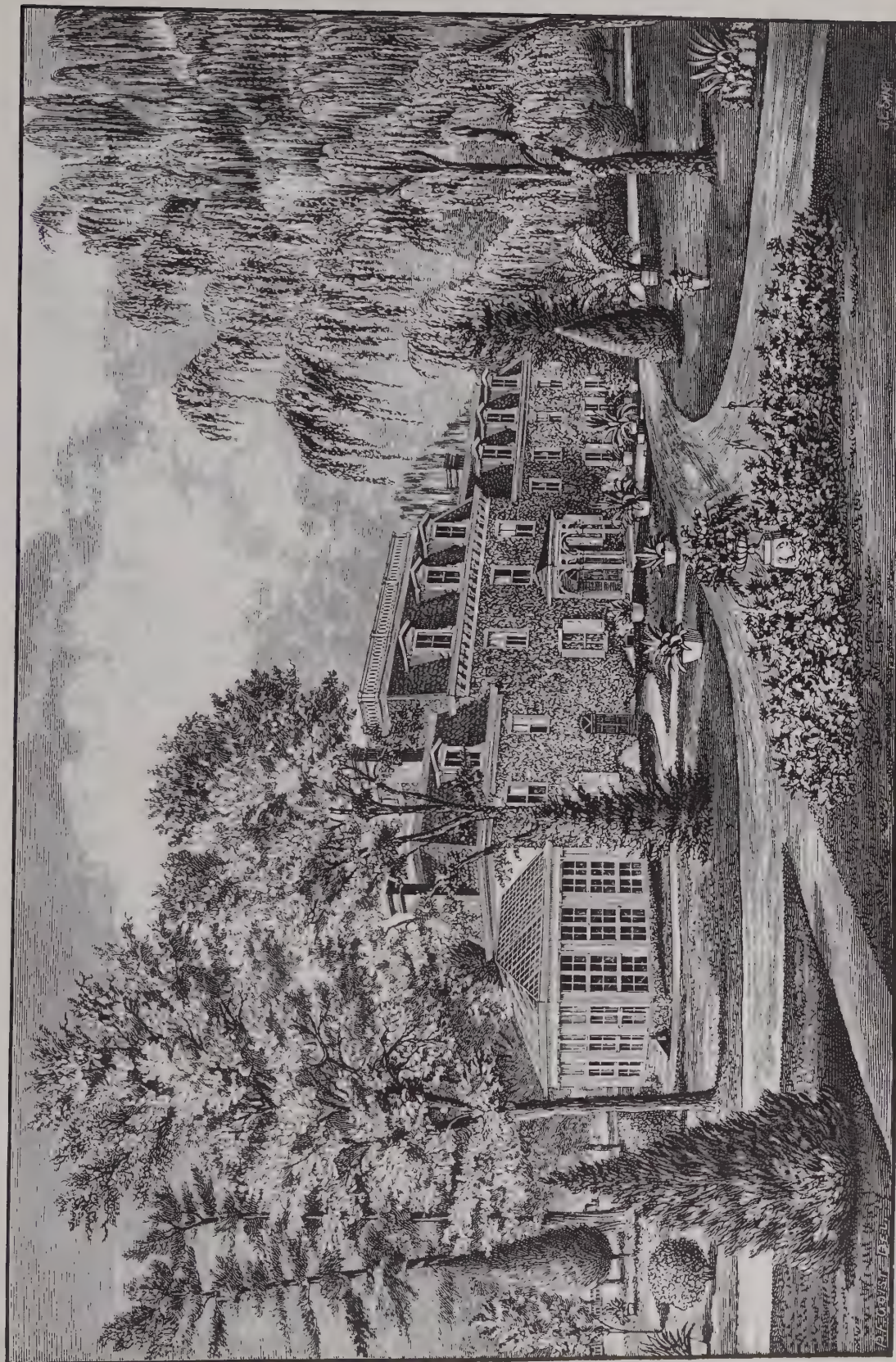
The Roberts family is also an early one, and has done much to advance the prosperity of the township, and probably has not been surpassed in energy by any other of Welsh origin in the county. John Roberts came from Pennychlawd, Denbighshire, North Wales, and settled on a tract of two hundred and fifty acres, in 1683, that he had purchased from John ap John and Thomas Wynne. He was married to Gainor, the daughter of Robert Pugh, of Merionethshire, by occupation a mill-wright, and is supposed to have erected the third mill in the province. This was near the present village of Pencoyd, which has received its name from the place of his nativity. A portion of this tract has never been out of the family. John Roberts, who carried on a grist-mill and two paper-mills on Mill Creek, before 1758, was his descendant; also the late Jonathan Roberts, of Upper Merion, United States Senator, Algernon S. and Percival Roberts, the founders and proprietors of the extensive Pencoyd Iron-Works, and George B. Roberts, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, who resides on his ancestral acres in this township. On the list of 1734 six of the name are mentioned as residing in Lower Merion. Hugh Roberts came from Llanvrawr, in Merionethshire, where he had suffered much for his religious principles previous to his removal to Pennsylvania. He was a minister among Friends, and visited their meetings in Maryland and New England, and made two journeys on this account to Great Britain. On his return from the latter country in July, 1698, he was accompanied by a number of immigrants from North Wales, whom he had encouraged to come. Before the building of Merion Meeting-house meetings were frequently held at his house, as shown by the records of Radnor Monthly Meeting as early, at least, as in Fourth Month, 1684. He died 18th of Sixth Month, 1702, and was interred in Merion burying-ground. On the assessor's list for 1780 we find the names of Algernon Roberts, rated for 224 acres; Joseph Roberts, 150; Hugh Roberts, 130; and John Roberts, 50 acres.

Rowland Ellis was a native of Bryn Mawr, near Dolgelly, Merionethshire. He arrived in 1686, bringing with him his eldest son, Rowland, then a boy. The ship brought besides about one hundred passengers from North Wales. After remaining here about nine months he returned, leaving his son with his uncle, John Humphrey. In 1697 he came back, bringing his family, besides a considerable number of his countrymen. He was a distinguished scholar, and for the Welsh he performed the important duties of a

translator and interpreter. He was commissioned a justice of the peace for Merion in 1707, continued one for many years, and also holding the office of county commissioner. He was the original settler on Charles Thomson's property, now belonging to Naomi Morris. In 1720 he removed to Plymouth township, where he soon after translated from the Welsh Ellis Pugh's "Salutation to the Britains," which was printed by S. Keimer, of Philadelphia, in 1727, in a duodecimo of two hundred and twenty-two pages. While on a visit to his son-in-law, John Evans, in Gwynedd, in 1729, he was taken suddenly ill, and thus happened to die there in his eightieth year. A memorial concerning him was published by the Friends in 1787.

Benjamin Humphrey came over in 1683, was a useful man in the settlement, and was widely known for his hospitality, particularly to the newly-arrived immigrants. He died November 4, 1737, aged seventy-six years. David Humphrey was commissioned one of the judges of the County Courts November 22, 1738. In the list of 1734 are found the names of Benjamin and John Humphrey, and of 1780, Thomas Humphrey. It was from members of this family that Humphreysville received its name. Edward Edwards purchased of William Penn, in England, two hundred and fifty acres, which he located here and settled upon, and he was still living in 1734. Robert Owen came from Wales in 1690. He was a minister, and traveled much on this account, both in his native country and in America. He died in July, 1697, and was interred at Merion Meeting-house. Benjamin Eastburn, who is mentioned in the list of 1734 as a resident here, in 1722 married Ann Thomas, of Abington. He was appointed to succeed Jacob Taylor as surveyor-general October 29, 1733, and continued in that office till or near his death, his successor being William Parsons, who was commissioned August 22, 1741. The part that he performed in the "Indian Walk" was not creditable. In his map thereof he has done his utmost to conceal and cover the transaction. With all his subserviency to the interests of Thomas Penn, the latter reflects severely on his character as may be seen in the Penn manuscripts. Griffith Llewellyn was commissioned a justice of the County Courts in April, 1744, and continued in the office for a number of years.

We herewith present a list of the land-holders and tenants residing in Lower Merion in 1734, copied from the original manuscript prepared by the constable for Thomas Penn. It contains fifty-two names, and to their descendants cannot fail to prove interesting. Excepting about four or five names, the balance are probably all Welsh, which will show how extensively they were the original settlers here: John (son of Mathias) Roberts, Hugh Evans, Robert Jones, Robert Roberts, Robert Evan, Rees Price, Edward Jones, Abel Thomas, Benjamin Eastburn, Jonathan Jones, William Haward, Richard Hughes, Morris



"WYNNEWOOD"

RESIDENCE OF THE LATE COL. OWEN JONES,
WYNNEWOOD MONTGOMERY CO. PA.

Lewellen, Benjamin Humphrey, John Humphrey, Joseph Williams, Rees Thomas, William Thomas, Peter Jones, Humphrey Jones, John Griffith, Catharine Pugh, Rees Phillip, Joseph Tucker, James John, Thomas John, John Lloyd, Griffith Lewellen, Robert Roberts, David Jones, William Walton, David Davis, Joseph Roberts, John Roberts, David Price, Issachar Price, David Price, Jr., Lewis Lloyd, John David, Robert (son of Peter) Jones, Thomas David, John Evans, Eleanor Bevan, Owen Jones' plantation, Evan Harry, Nicholas Rapy, John Roberts (carpenter), Evan Rees, Samuel Jordan, James Dodmead, Edward Edwards and Garret Jones. The list of 1780 shows a reduction to about thirty-five Welsh surnames out of a total of one hundred and eighty-five, at that date but little surpassing the German element. A study of Hopkins' farm map of the township, published in 1877, shows a great falling off here of the nationality that for the first half-century of settlement were so largely dominant. John Oldmixon, in a visit here in 1708, mentions the Welsh and their tract as "very populous, and the people are very industrious; by which means it is better cleared than any other part of the county. The inhabitants have many fine plantations of corn and breed abundance of cattle, insomuch that they are looked upon to be as thriving and wealthy as any in the province."

During the Revolution, particularly while the British held possession of Philadelphia, from September, 1777, to June, 1778, the inhabitants of Lower Merion, in consequence of their nearness, suffered severely from the raids of the enemy. Though no striking events of interest occurred here during the exciting struggle, yet it was compelled to bear some of the trials. Shortly after their departure an assessor was appointed to value the damages, which amounted to £3212, or \$8565 of our present currency. Michael Smith was the heaviest loser, to the extent of £451. During this period twenty-nine persons stood attainted with treason within the present limits of the county, yet only one of the number was a resident of Lower Merion, thus showing that the mass of the people here must have been generally disposed to independence.

From the township assessment of 1780, as returned by Israel Jones, the assessor, we derive some interesting information. John Righter is mentioned as holding a grist-mill and one hundred acres; Catharine Zolly, grist-mill and fifty-two acres; Anthony Levering, grist and saw-mill and one hundred and fourteen acres; John Jones, saw-mill; Catharine Scheetz, two paper-mills and one hundred acres; Frederick Bicking, paper-mill and two hundred acres; Jacob Newhouse, paper-mill and fifty-two acres; Benjamin Scheetz, Daniel Claus, Simon Claus, George Handbolt and Jacob Nagle, paper-makers; Daniel Burrell, oil-mill; William Stadleman, Abraham Streeper and David Briggs, inn-keepers; Samuel Horten, Jonathan Robeson, Thomas Humphrey and Jesse Thomas,

smiths; Lewis Thomas and John Whiteman, wheelwrights; John White, millwright; Robert Elliott, John Young, Thomas Robeson, Michael Kline and Henry Shulster, weavers; Robert Holland, tanner; John Robeson, clergyman; John Evans and Isaac Lewis, tailors; John Smith, mason; Joseph Smith, Jacob Coleman, Rudolph Latch, James Nussel, shoemakers; Daniel Briggs, Philip Pritner, Robert Elliott, Hugh Jones, Isaac Taylor, Frederick Bicking, Benjamin Scheetz, John Price, holding negroes, the first two having two each. The assessment of 1785 mentions 5 grist-mills, 4 saw-mills, 5 paper-mills, 2 tan-yards, 4 taverns, 245 horses, 298 cattle and 7 negroes, the latter number showing a decrease of three slaves in five years.

Charles Thomson, secretary of Congress, was long a resident of Lower Merion, where he died August 16, 1824, at the advanced age of ninety-four. He was a native of Ireland, and came to America in 1741, in company with his three elder brothers. He first taught school and early formed the acquaintance of Dr. Franklin. At the first meeting of Congress, in 1774, he was called to keep the minutes of their proceedings, and was continued secretary till 1789, when he resigned. He married Hannah, the only child of Richard Harrison, who had died in 1747. Her mother was the daughter of Isaac Norris and a granddaughter of Governor Thomas Lloyd. Mrs. Thomson was an heiress, by whom he acquired a considerable estate, taxed in 1780 for seven hundred and fifty acres, and extending southward nearly to the present Bryn Mawr. His wife having died September 6, 1806, in his will, made a short time before his death, he bequeathed the whole estate to his nephew and executor, John Thomson, of New Castle, subject to the maintenance of his aged sister, Mary Thomson, "during the term of her natural life." The greater part of the estate in 1858 was owned by Levi Morris, who was then rated for five hundred and ninety-six acres. The estate is now held by Mrs. Naomi Morris, and is decidedly the most extensive tract owned by any one person in the township. The mansion occupied by Charles Thomson has been carefully preserved, being a substantial, plain, two-story stone house in the prevailing style of the period in which it was erected.

On the Harrison estate, and about half a mile north of Bryn Mawr, is the cemetery of the Harrison family. It is in a secluded situation, being surrounded by woods, and not readily found by a stranger. It is inclosed by a substantial wall, whose dimensions are about ninety by forty-five feet. A stone in the inclosure states that "it is opposite the division between two rows of family graves, wherein are interred Richard Harrison, died March 2, 1747, and a number of his descendants; also Charles Thomson, Secretary of Continental Congress," and Hannah, his wife. "Wherein are interred" the remains of Charles Thomson, looks very much like an intentional mistake. He is buried at Laurel Hill Cemetery, his

remains having been removed from here several years after his death, contrary to the expressed injunction of his will, dated January 29, 1822, on file at Norristown, which states, near its beginning, "and first I desire to be buried in the old Burying-ground at Harrington," meaning, it is natural to suppose, where his wife had been buried more than fifteen years previously. Hence we do not wonder that it made some excitement, and was the occasion of several pamphlets. Henry Woodman,¹ of Buckingham, a respected minister of Friends, visited this cemetery in 1858 and wrote an account thereof, published at the time, wherein he states that there was a stone here at that date, in the wall, with this inscription,—

"In memory of Richard Harrison, the founder of this cemetery, who departed this life the second day of the First month, 1747, in the 78th year of his age. He, with his wife and children, are buried here, some of whom had died previously, and some subsequently to his death. Being members of the Society of Friends, no monuments were placed to mark their final resting-place. This stone is erected near the centre of them, to perpetuate their memory, in 1844."

It is apparent that the latter stone must have been since removed and the former one inserted. In the enlarged part are more recent stones, with inscriptions denoting the surnames of some six or seven families.

Few townships in the county possess better roads than Lower Merion. Of late years great quantities of cinder have been hauled and placed on them from the West Conshohocken furnaces, which, when worn down, make excellent and smooth roads, as may be witnessed on the Township Line road, extending southwestward from the latter place to Merion Square. Pains have also been taken to have them well graded and of good width, which tends greatly to improve the appearance of the country through which they pass. The Haverford road is probably the oldest in the township, having been laid out in 1703 as a public highway from near Haverford Meeting-house to Philadelphia. It enters Lower Merion a trifle over half a mile south of Ardmore, and proceeds directly on about a mile and a half across the southern corner of the township. The road from the meeting-house to Powell's ferry was confirmed in June, 1704. Report of a survey for a road from Merion to Radnor was confirmed in March, 1713. The road from Lancaster to the Schuylkill, at High Street ferry, was laid out November 23, 1741, and is now known as the old Lancaster road, passing through the township a distance of about six miles, and the villages of Merionville, General Wayne, Libertyville, Ardmore and Bryn Mawr. This road is noted on Scull & Heap's map of 1750. Below the meeting-house is mentioned "Griffith's" and "Tunis," on opposite sides, and "Evans'" about a mile in an easterly direction. On the making of the turnpike, in 1792, this road was considerably straightened, and in consequence but a very small portion of the original

road through this township was used for the purpose. The Gulf road was another early and important highway, noted on Lewis Evans' map of 1749 as extending from Valley Forge to the Lancaster road, a short distance above Ardmore. This road is noted for having on the east side of its course the "Penn milestones," called so from having on the rear side the three balls or platters of the Penn coat-of-arms. They appear to be soapstone, and are generally above the ground about three and a half feet, bearing on the front merely the figures denoting the distance in miles from Philadelphia,—as, for instance, between Bryn Mawr and the Upper Merion line are two, bearing respectively "12" and "13." It is remarkable that these should have been only placed along this road. When and by whom placed and who bore the expense are matters for conjecture. In 1766 a petition was sent to the Court of Quarter Sessions praying for a road from John Roberts' mill "to Rees Ap Edward's Ford, on the river Schuylkill, for the transportation of lime and other necessities across said ford, for the convenience of the public." This probably is the present Mill Creek road, and consequently this ford must have been in the vicinity of the mouth of the stream, thus indicating the necessity of bringing lime from Whitemarsh and Plymouth. At March Sessions, 1785, Anthony Levering made application for a road from Levering's Ford, on the Schuylkill, by his mill, to the Lancaster road, on the north side of Merion Meeting-house. The court appointed commissioners to lay out the road, which was ordered to be opened. This is evidently the highway commencing at the mouth of the stream at the lower part of West Manayunk, and thence proceeding through Academyville, by Belmont Race-Course to the meeting-house. It was one of the first applications granted for a new road after the organization of the present county. The overseers of the highways in 1767 were Robert Jones and Stephen Goodman; in 1785, William Stadleman and John Jones; and in 1810, Louis Knox and Peter Pechan.

Prior to the Revolution those persons in the township that were entitled to vote were obliged to go to the State-House, in Philadelphia. In 1778 the elections for this district were ordered to be held in Germantown, and from thence, in 1785, removed to the court-house in Norristown. By an act of Assembly passed on March 31, 1806, Lower Merion became the Ninth District in the county, and elections were required to be held at the General Wayne, and remained there until 1867, when a division was made into the Upper and Lower Districts. Through the increase of population, the court confirmed, June 3, 1878, the division of the Lower District into East Lower and Lower Districts, the elections for the former to be held at West Manayunk, and for the latter to continue at the General Wayne. The division of the Upper District was confirmed by the court June 10, 1880, to be called West and Upper Districts, the elections for the former to be held

¹ Author of a "History of Valley Forge" and other papers of local interest; died in December, 24, 1879, aged eighty-four years. Personally well known to the writer.

at Bryn Mawr Station, and for the latter to continue at Merion Square. We thus perceive that in a large and populous township like this, with its two centuries of history, even the subject of its elections, if inquired into and the materials brought together, could, through the changes connected therewith, be made the matter of an interesting sketch since the days of slavery, servitude and property qualifications.

In connection with this subject, and deserving mention, a map of Lower Merion was published in 1858 by John Levering, from surveys made by himself, showing all its buildings and various improvements, names of property-holders and the boundaries of lots and farms. This, we believe, was the first effort of the kind for the whole township; a part of the lower portion had been thus given in Hill's map of 1809.

ASSESSMENT OF LOWER MERION FOR 1780.

Peter Evans, 280 acres, 1 horse and 3 cattle; Philip Pritner, gent., 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; 2 slaves; Alexander Oliver, 4 h., 9 c.; Leonard Nidley, 2 h., 3 c.; David Thomas, 2 h., 2 c.; Lawrence Trexler, 2 h., 3 c.; Jonathan Brooks, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Charles Massey, 2 h., 3 c., 1 chair; Jesse Jones, 100 a., 2 h.; Francis Jones, 50 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Catharine Zolley, 52 a., grist-mill, 1 h., 2 c.; David Briggs, inn-keeper, 42 a., 2 slaves, 2 h., 3 c.; John Jones, 50 a., saw-mill, 2 h., 5 c.; Samuel Horton, smith, 1 c.; Abraham Nanna, 120 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Tate, 2 h., 2 c.; Abraham Tuley, 2 h., 3 c.; Jonathan Sturgis, 200 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Joseph Smith, cordwainer, 1 c.; John Davis, mason, 1 c., 2 c.; Elizabeth Crickbaum, 100 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Robert Lisle, laborer; Robert Elliott, weaver, 100 a., 3 h., 4 c., 1 slave; Israel Jones, 2 h., 3 c.; Llewellyn Young, 2 h., 5 c.; John Smith, mason, 2 h., 2 c.; Peter Trexler, rents of Charles Thomson, 750 a., 6 h., 10 c.; Henry Pugh, 50 a., 1 c.; Thomas Cochran, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; George Horn, 77 a., 2 h.; Andrew Horn, 77 a., 2 h., 2 c.; William Broades, 25 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Hugh Jones, 334 a., 4 h., 12 c., 1 slave; John Grover, 3 h., 4 c.; Wendel Kingfield, 2 h., 2 c.; Hannah Bridson, widow, 93 a., 2 h., 3 c.; William Tolbert, 93 a., 4 h., 2 c.; Joseph Taylor, 1 c.; Isaac Taylor, aged, 139 a., 3 h., 2 c., 1 slave; John Young, weaver, 1 h., 1 c.; John Llewellyn, 350 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Mathias Foltz, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Mathias Foltz, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Abraham Walter, single, 89 a.; Joseph Roberts, 150 a., 1 h., 3 c.; John Rowland, laborer, 1 h., 1 c.; Eleanor Lloyd, 50 a.; Isaac Conly, 2 h., 4 c.; Meriah Alloway, 2 h., 3 c.; Enoch Davis, 40 a., 1 c.; Christ. Homiller, 3 c.; John Fimple, 1 h., 2 c.; John White, millwright; William Ward, 2 h., 2 c.; Daniel Burrell, oil-maker, oil-mill, 3 h., 3 c., 1 chair; Hugh Roberts, single, 130 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Jacob Amos, 1 c., 2 h.; Isaac Warner, 2 h., 2 c.; Anthony Righter, laborer, 1 c.; John Righter, miller, 100 a., grist-mill, 4 h., 4 c.; Jacob Hansbury, laborer, 1 c.; Joseph Sill, 2 h., 2 c.; Frederick Bicking, 200 a., paper-mill, 1 slave, 2 h., 5 c.; Jacob Newhouse, 52 a., paper-mill, 2 h., 2 c.; Thomas Wilday, 51 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Thomas Robeson, weaver, 1 c.; John Robeson, clergyman, 1 h., 2 c.; John Robeson, laborer, 1 c.; James Winter, 80 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jonathan Robeson, smith, 151 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Daniel Claus, paper-maker; Benjamin Scheetz, paper-maker, 1 c., 1 slave; Catherine Scheetz, 100 a., 2 paper-mills, 1 h., 3 c.; George Handbolt, paper-maker, 1 c.; James Underwood, 2 h., 5 c.; Ambrose Emery, 2 h., 4 c.; Samuel Pawling, laborer, 1 c.; John Grover, 70 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Thomas Morgan, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Michael Cline, 30 a., 1 h., 1 c., weaver; Thomas Waters, 2 h., 2 c.; Rudolph Exbright, 2 h., 2 c.; Henry Miller, 50 a.; Thomas Humphreys, smith, 30 a., 1 h., 1 c.; George Fimple, 2 h., 3 c.; Philip Sing, 45 a., 2 h., 2 c., 1 chair; Algernon Roberts, 224 a., 5 h., 7 c.; John Evans, tailor; Jacob Coleman, cordwainer, 40 a.; Mathias Creamer, 2 h., 1 c.; Jacob Everman, laborer, 30 a., 2 c.; Jacob Keighler, 3 h., 3 c.; Casper Space, 1 h., 2 c.; Rudolph Latch, cordwainer, 75 a., 2 h., 2 c.; James Calahan, laborer, 1 h., 1 c.; Wm. Stadleman, inn-keeper, 80 a., 4 h., 2 c.; Jesse Thomas, smith, 40 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Abel Thomas, 40 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Lewis Thomas, wheelwright, 1 h., 1 c.; John Zell, 160 a., 4 h., 2 c.; Nehemiah Evans, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Durnal, 5 h., 5 c.; Isaac Hughes, 70 a., 3 h.; David Shannon, 100 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Henry Bare, 4 h., 5 c.; James Nussel, cordwainer, 2 a.; John Roberts, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Lobb, 4 h., 3 c.; John Price, 194 a., 1 slave, 5 h., 8 c.; Walter Walter, 80 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Daniel Lobb, 1 c.; Hugh Knox, 120 a., 3 h., 2 c.; John Cook, 2 h., 1 c.; Margaret Goodman, 168

a., 2 h., 3 c.; Michael Bower, 100 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Martin Miller, 35 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Matson, 1 h., 3 c.; Peter May, 150 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Henry Shoolster, weaver, 2 h., 2 c.; Abraham Streep, inn-keeper, 16 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Robert Holland, tanner, 40 a., tan-yard, 1 h., 2 c.; Michael Smith 2 h., 2 c.; William Smith, 2 h., 1 c.; Michael Smith, 2 h., 1 c.; Simon Claus, paper-maker, 2 c.; Anthony Tunis, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Jeremiah Trexler, 2 h., 2 c.; David Zell, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Conrad, 4 h., 2 c.; Isaac Lewis, tailor, 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Jones, 230 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Amos, cordwainer, 1 c.; John Whiteman, wheelwright, 1 c.; Jacob Sloan, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Anthony Lovering, 114 a., grist and saw-mill, 3 h., 2 c.; Paul Jones, 130 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Silas Jones, 140 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Margaret Heller, 180 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Frederick Crow, 100 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Ismael Davis, cordwainer; Nicholas Stoltz, 2 h., 4 c.; Bartle Righter, 40 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Jacob Neagle, paper-maker, 1 c.; Michael McMullen, 190 a., 3 h., 4 c.; William Roberts, 1 c.; Rudolf Sibley, 180 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Michael Hersh, 1 h., 1 c.; Edward Price, infirm, 200 a.; Rees Price, 15 a., 2 h., 8 c.; Thomas David's estate, 280 a.; John Vanderin, 13 a.; Peter Righter, 5 a.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church.—The list of 1734 contains the names of fifty-two residents of Lower Merion, and among them there is not recognizable a single German name, yet they had sufficiently increased by 1765 to have ministers occasionally preach to them in their language and baptize their children. In 1767 the first communion service was held, in which forty-three persons participated. Through the exertions of William Stadleman, Frederick Grow, Stephen Goodman, Christopher Getzman, George Bassler and Simon Litzenberg an organization was effected and a lot of ground purchased, with a view to erect thereon an Evangelical Lutheran Church, with a cemetery attached. A small log house for worship was built thereon in 1769, but no communion service held until May 1, 1774. The Revolution now approaching, the excitement connected therewith impaired the congregation to such an extent that it had but little more than a lingering existence throughout the whole of this period, and even its pulpit was occasionally supplied by ministers of other denominations.

Near the close of the century matters began to wear a brighter aspect, and it was determined, as the building was getting dilapidated, to erect a new one of stone in its place. This was accordingly accomplished in 1800, but without securing stated religious services or a regular pastor. Through the efforts of several of its most efficient members, the Rev. B. Keller, of the Germantown congregation, was induced, in 1828, to divide his ministrations with this church. The attendance began now to increase, and through renewed efforts on the part of the pastor and the chief members prosperity became more manifest. A substantial wall was erected along the roadside on the southern part of the lot, and a Sunday-school started under flourishing auspices. The Rev. Jeremiah Harpel succeeded in the charge in 1831, and at the first communion he held eleven persons participated. His energetic labors materially added to the membership. In 1833 the building was enlarged, and in November of that year dedicated to St. Paul.

Mr. Harpel having resigned in 1834, the Rev. Charles Barnitz assumed the charge in the following year, making his residence in the neighborhood, and

remained its pastor until 1839, during which period he added to its membership fifty persons. His successor was Rev. Edward Town, who retained the pastorate about two and a half years, or until 1842. A vacancy now occurred, which was filled by Rev. Nathan Cornell in the autumn of 1844, who, within three years, added some twenty-four members. The Rev. William D. Roedel having settled here, the congregation built for his accommodation a parsonage in 1851, on the upper or western end of the church ground. He remained in charge until 1855, during which time he received seventeen into membership. Rev. Timothy Tilghman Titus succeeded, and remained pastor for several years. Henry Woodman, in a visit to this section in the latter part of 1858, thus speaks of this congregation and its previous church building,—

"I was informed by some persons residing near the place, that it has at this time the largest congregation of any other place of worship in the township. Thirty years ago, there was only a small house upon the premises used in the double capacity of a meeting and school-house, and the congregation had become very small. All restraints against service being performed in the English language being removed, they have now become a large and highly respectable congregation. The officiating clergyman informed me that if service was now performed in the German language, they would have to get another congregation to understand it."

As these Germans were surrounded by the descendants of the early Welsh settlers and an English-speaking population, chiefly belonging to the Society of Friends, in consequence it was long known through this section as "the Dutch Church." It stood at the intersection of cross-roads, about a quarter of a mile southeast of Ardmore, and was a one-story stone building, surrounded by the graveyard with shade-trees. In 1873 it was torn down, and the new church erected on a one-acre lot donated by Mr. Kugler, in the lower part of the village, fronting on Lancaster Avenue. It is a handsome edifice, built of dressed stone, two stories high, fifty-two by seventy feet in dimension, surmounted with a steeple and was dedicated in December, 1875. The present pastor is Rev. W. H. Steck. Services are held twice every Sabbath, the Sunday-school being in the afternoon.

The graveyard, which has now been in use nearly one hundred and twenty years, in 1858 comprised about one and a half acres, and has since been enlarged to twice that size. It is neatly kept, and is now partly inclosed by iron railing. As may be expected, a considerable number are buried here. From the numerous tombstones we have transcribed the following surnames, of which fully three-fourths denote a German origin: Stull, Knoch, Cassidy, Hoegne, Dolby, Brooks, Bailey, Kenzie, Knox, Martin, Thomas, Weest, McMinn, Smith, Lainhoff, Kugler, Miller, Sheaff, Goodman, Grover, Coldflesh, Sibley, Kensel, Ott, Uries, Freas, Zell, Stelwagon, Trexler, Horn, Jones, Hagy, Raser, Schrieble, Krickbaum, Knoll, Walkin, Prentz, McElroy, Herse, Snyder, Righter, Wagner, Litzenberg, Hill, Wilfong, Wright, Helmbold, Black, Stadleman,

Leedom, Fullerton, Griffith, Heater, Fimple, McClellan, Amos, Latch, Wallower, Fiss, Richter, Hoffman, Hayworth, Barr, Tibben, Grow, Wood, Mowrer, Rhodes, Schofield, Garrett, Wise, Williams, Super, Warner, Hansell, Bettie, Knoll, Gravel, Bloom, Epright, Pouge, Lentz, Schafer, Fryer, Vaughan, Bowden, Hoffman, Burns, Abraham, Seabold, Bevan, Rodenboh, Nagle, Pope, Pitman, Lowbey, Hilt, Whiteman, Grave, White, Noblet, Yetter, Cleverger, Magee, Holland, Miles, Wilcox, Fry, Lyons and Young. A neat stone has been erected here to the memory of the late Charles Kugler, which informs us that he was born February 5, 1805, and died October 28, 1879. He was long identified with this church, above fifty years superintendent of the Sabbath-school, a school director of the township thirty-six years, and sixteen years president of the Lutheran Publication Society, besides holding other positions.

Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo.

—This institution of the Catholic diocese is situated in the southeastern portion of Lower Merion, and within half a mile of Overbrook Station, on the Pennsylvania Railroad. The dome, surmounted with an elevated gilt cross, forms an object that can be seen for miles around the country, and its extensive grounds and magnificent buildings attract attention and are a subject for comment among visitors on business or pleasure who have occasion to pass through this section. Its origin dates back to 1832, when a house was used for this purpose near St. Mary's Church, on South Fourth Street, Philadelphia. In the year 1838 it was incorporated by an act of Assembly as the "Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo." The incorporators were John Keating, John Diamond, Joseph Dugan, Michael McGrath and Marc Antoine Frenaye. These gentlemen constituted the first lay trustees and formed five of the nine required by law. The other four consisted of Bishop Francis P. Kendrick, the president of the seminary, the professor of theology and the professor of Sacred Scriptures.

In January, 1839, the building at Eighteenth and Race Streets was completed, when Rev. M. O'Connor, D.D., opened the seminary with eighteen students. The object intended was that those thus educated should serve the missions within the diocese of Philadelphia alone. At this date this diocese included the whole of Pennsylvania and Delaware, with the western part of New Jersey; but such has been the increase of churches that since 1869 its territory has been reduced to the city of Philadelphia and nine counties, namely,—Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton and Schuylkill. In 1848, Rev. Thaddeus Amat became president, with twenty-five students, and \$4043.26 raised by subscription for their support. The seminary having been enlarged, the number of students in 1851 had now reached to forty-one. Owing to a further increase and the want of sufficient accommodations, Bishop Neuman, in 1859, opened a preparatory seminary at Glen Riddle, Dela-

ware Co., under the direction of Rev. James F. Shanahan, now bishop of Harrisburg.

Seeing a necessity for further accommodations, Bishop Wood, at a cost of thirty thousand dollars, in 1866, secured the site known as the Remington Farm, near Overbrook, about four and a half miles from Philadelphia, containing one hundred and twenty-seven acres, and now bounded by City, Lancaster and Wynnewood Avenues and the Hunter estate, the land being diversified, a branch of Indian Creek passing through it and possessing fine meadows, shady woods and stone adapted for building purposes. The corner-stone of the new building for the seminary was laid April 4th, 1866, on which occasion the president, Rev. Michael O'Connor, preached the sermon, when he reviewed its early history and struggles to arrive at what they were now prepared to accomplish. Owing to the extent of the improvements to be made, the seminary building was not ready for use until January, 1871. In 1872, Rev. James A. Corcoran, D.D., assumed the rectorship of the seminary, succeeded in the following year by Rev. Charles O'Connor, D.D. The Rev. William Kieran, D.D., who was appointed in 1879, is its present rector. The seminary contains on an average one hundred students, and since its first foundation has supplied the diocese with upwards of three hundred and fifty priests. There are eight professorships, besides several assistant professors. The languages taught are English, German, Latin, Greek, Hebrew and Syriac. The French and Italian languages are cultivated in private by a number of students. Rev. James A. Corcoran, D.D., is the professor of Hebrew, Syriac and homiletics. Every branch of sacred and profane science receives its due attention in the ten years' course required here in preparing the students for their future labors.

As this seminary-building ranks among the finest in the country, a brief description will be given. Its architecture is of the Italian style and the general ground-plan somewhat in the form of the letter E. The east, or main front, is three hundred and eighty-four feet in length, three stories high and the central portion surmounted by a dome, the summit of which is one hundred and eighty feet above the ground. In the rear of the central building is the chapel, forty-five and a half by one hundred and three feet in dimensions and admirably fitted up, the decorations and paintings therein being excellent. Besides the main altar, four side altars are built in alcoves, sixteen feet wide and twenty-four feet high. The organ and choir-loft are situated at the east end of the chapel, and the students, when in choir, sit in stalls facing one another, according to the mode adopted in Rome. The central building is devoted to the library, choir-halls, sacristies, reception-room, and parlors. The pavilions contain study and recreation halls. The northwest pavilion and a building adjoining it are the quarters of the matron and her *attachés*, the kitchen, laundry, engine-room, store-rooms, etc. The southwest pavilion

is occupied as students' rooms and a laboratory. The house is built of gray stone, heated by steam, and everything used in its construction is of the most substantial and durable character. The architects were Samuel F. Sloan and Addison Hutton. There are, besides, located on the grounds gas and water-works, two private dwellings for employés, carpenter-shop, barns and large and commodious stables.

The library contains nearly eighteen thousand volumes, many of which are valuable and some rare. Among these we shall give space to mention the following works, all folios excepting two: The Bollandist "Lives of the Saints," commenced in 1643 at Antwerp, and still being published, 67 vols.; De Lyra's Bible, printed at Rome 1472, the capitals painted by hand; a German Bible, printed in 1534, translated by D. Johan Dieten; a Bible in 10 vols., printed in 1645 at Paris, in Syriac, Samaritan, Chaldee, Arabic, Latin, Greek and Hebrew; "Councils of the Church," 11 vols.; "Cornelius a Lapide," 10 vols., Antwerp, 1645; Martin's "Corruptions of the Scriptures," 1582; "Bulla Roma Pontificum," 29 vols.; "St. Augustine," 14 vols.; "Venerable Bede," 5 vols., 1563; "Bellarmine," 11 vols., quarto; "St. Thomas Aquinas," 26 vols.; Montfaucon's "Antiquities," 10 vols.; Kingsborough's "Mexican Antiquities," 9 vols.; "Scriptorum Græcorum Bibliotheca," 70 vols.; Lemaire's "Bibliotheca Classica," 150 vols., quarto. Such a library is calculated to impress one with the antiquity and extent of the church. Many of the volumes have been donated by distinguished persons residing in Europe and in this country. It contains also a fine collection of medals struck by the various popes, commencing in 1417 and down to the present time. The walls of the seminary are also adorned with numerous valuable engravings and paintings. To bring this seminary to its present condition has cost not less than one million of dollars, and requires for its continuation an annual outlay of nearly forty thousand. The result, however, has been that some of the most gifted minds in the church are happy to call it their *Alma Mater*, and its welfare concerns many thousands of Catholics residing within the diocese.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

CHARLES WHEELER.

Charles Wheeler, who, during the later years of his life, was the owner of the beautiful country-seat and suburban property known as the Wheeler Estate, in Lower Merion township, near Bryn Mawr, was born August 22, 1827, in the city of Philadelphia, which was his place of residence through all the years of his life.

In 1847, Mr. Wheeler entered the employment of Morris, Tasker & Co. as a clerk, and continued in that position six years. At the end of that time Wistar

Morris, senior partner and founder of the house, retired from the business, and, much to the surprise of every one, sold out his interest to Mr. Wheeler, who was then less than twenty years of age and without capital. The preference was the more remarkable as there were clerks in the office senior to Mr. Wheeler and of family relationship to his benefactor. The confidence, however, was not misplaced. He paid for Mr. Morris' interest the sum of five hundred thousand dollars out of his share of the profits of the concern within two years after he entered it. In 1864, Mr. Wheeler sold out his quickly-acquired share in the business for eight hundred thousand dollars, and turned his attention to the Fairmount Iron-Works, of which he was the owner, and to the establishment of the Central National Bank, of which, at its organization, in 1865, he was the largest share-holder. He was one of its original directors, and, in 1873, was elected its vice-president. He continued in the direction of the Fairmount Iron-Works until the land on which they stood was taken by the city for park purposes.

In 1876, Mr. Wheeler re-entered and held a controlling interest in the firm from which he had retired twelve years previously,—that of Morris, Tasker & Co. Not content, as yet, with the vast business cares which he had taken upon himself, Mr. Wheeler, in 1878, entered, as senior partner, the firm of John Farnum & Co., of 233 Chestnut Street, one of the heaviest dry-goods firms in the city. This step was taken in order to carry out the wishes of Mr. Farnum (then deceased), whose daughter, Susan, Mr. Wheeler had married in 1866.

Mr. Wheeler was a man of strictest integrity and of thorough business education and character, possessing, in a remarkable degree, the faculties of quick perception, keen discrimination and ready judgment. He was a kindly, genial man, of a warm and generous nature. In person, he was tall and erect, of commanding presence and distinguished appearance. His health was excellent, and continued apparently unimpaired until his death, which occurred, suddenly, in New York, on the 16th of August, 1883.

At the time of his death Mr. Wheeler was the directing head of two of the largest business-houses of Philadelphia, and of one of its leading financial institutions. Besides these, he held positions in the boards of direction of the North America and Girard Insurance Companies, the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, the Cambria Iron Company, the Pottstown Iron Company, the Seaboard Bank of New York, and the First National Bank of Bradford, Pa. The remarkable executive ability of Mr. Wheeler was attested by the impetus which his labors gave to the several mercantile, manufacturing and financial concerns with which he was associated, and especially by the success which followed his efforts to create, incorporate and establish the Central National Bank.

In his politics Mr. Wheeler belonged to the party

of good government,—a conviction he evinced by his activity and prominence in the Committee of One Hundred from the time of its organization. He took an active interest in city charities, being connected with the Charity Organization Society, the Bedford Mission and the Soup Society. He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal denomination, and was for many years connected with St. Luke's Church at Thirteenth and Spruce Streets, Philadelphia. Especially was his care and liberality extended to the Church of the Redeemer, at Bryn Mawr, near his country-seat. His city home was at 1217 Walnut Street.

JOHN YOCUM CRAWFORD.

John Yocum Crawford, one of the most prominent and influential among the leading men of Lower Merion township in his time, was descended from a Scotch family of that name, who came to America before the war of the Revolution and settled on lands purchased from the Swedes, at Swedes' Ford. A short distance below that place, on the west side of the Schuylkill, was the homestead farm of Andrew Crawford, a son or grandson of this first Crawford family, who was living there prior to the beginning of the present century. He had one daughter, Elizabeth, who became the wife of Hugh Long, and four sons,—Samuel, Andrew, William and Joseph, who was the father of him to whom this biographical sketch has especial reference. The wife of Joseph and mother of John Y. Crawford was Hannah Yocum (originally Jocum), a descendant of a Swedish family of that name, who came to Pennsylvania before the time of William Penn, and were among those of their countrymen who formed the settlement at Wicaco. Afterwards the Yocums were settled at Swedes' Ford, and thence the different branches of the family became spread out and extended through various localities in the country between the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers.

John Y. Crawford, one of the family of six children of Joseph and Hannah Crawford, was born at his parents' home, Prospect Hill, in the northwest part of Lower Merion township, May 14, 1822. His education, commenced in the common schools of the township, was continued at the somewhat celebrated school of Joshua Hoops, at West Chester, and finished by a full course of study at the Treemount Seminary, Norristown, under the Rev. Samuel Aaron. On leaving school he decided to engage in the business in which he had been reared, and which best suited his tastes and inclinations, that of farming. He entered upon it with energy, and at the death of his father purchased from the estate the homestead farm, where he continued to live until his death. In his chosen vocation he was progressive, conducting his business in accordance with intelligent and advanced ideas, and ever ready to adopt well-tested improvements in methods of agriculture. With these characteristics,



Chas Wheeler

it was almost a matter of course that his extensive farming should result, as it did, in success.

Besides his agricultural operations, he was also engaged in other business enterprises, which proved profitable. During the prosperous times which preceded the financial panic of 1873 he made quite heavy investments in various company stocks, which afterwards appreciated in value to an extent that added largely to his wealth. He was one of the original stockholders of the First National Bank of Conshohocken, and a member of its board of directors from its organization until his death. With reference to his promptness and executive ability in matters of

Orphans' Court. To settle so large an estate in so short a time, dividing it amicably among so many heirs, was justly regarded as a remarkable business achievement.

In matters relating to public improvements and the welfare of the community in which he lived, Mr. Crawford was as progressive in his ideas, and as energetic in action, as he was in the prosecution of his private business. Perhaps the most forcible illustration of this was presented in the attitude which he assumed with regard to the improvement of the highways in his part of the township. When he became proprietor of the property which had been his father's,



John G. Crawford

business, the following facts are related: His bachelor uncle, Andrew Crawford, in his old age, wishing to be relieved of the care of his large property, placed it in the hands of his nephew, John Y. Crawford, constituting him his attorney in fact for its management, and afterwards making a will and appointing him executor. In 1870 the uncle died at his nephew's house, at the age of ninety-four years, and within three months from the day of his death the executor, Mr. Crawford, had settled the estate (amounting to about two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars), dividing it among the nine heirs to the entire satisfaction of all, and had filed his final account in the

on Prospect highlands, scarcely a mile from the Schuylkill, there was no way by which the river could be reached with a wheeled vehicle of any kind without great difficulty. The road (if road it could be called) leading to West Conshohocken was little more than a rude cart-path, passing, for a great part of its length, through a rugged ravine, along the course of a small, rapid stream and over rocks and other obstructions, which made it almost impassable at all times and it became entirely so when the stream was swollen by freshets. Under these circumstances Mr. Crawford determined to procure the construction of a new and serviceable road to the river; but he soon

found that in this he was to meet a general and stubborn opposition, even from those who would be greatly benefited by the improvement. He caused the matter to be brought before a jury, where he himself made a strong and convincing argument against able counsel who had been employed by the opposition. The jury reported favorably, but the opposition continued, and it was not until after nine successive juries had made favorable reports that the road was finally laid out and built. Very few, if any, who are acquainted with the history of that broad, smooth and solid highway will now deny that for its construction, and for the advantages which have resulted from it, the public are chiefly indebted to the good judgment, energy and perseverance of John Y. Crawford.

Mr. Crawford was married, September 19, 1867, to V. Virginia Wright, daughter of Archibald and Jane Wright, of Philadelphia. Their children are Mary Virginia, Annie Elizabeth, John Yocum and Andrew Wright Crawford. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford were promoters and liberal patrons of the Mount Pleasant Sunday-school whose meeting-place was in the commodious stone school-house, standing within a few rods of their dwelling, and which was built chiefly by his generous donations. Annually, for several years, the teachers and pupils of the Sunday-school (as also many who were not members of it) were invited to Mr. Crawford's house and grounds for the enjoyment of the "strawberry festival," at which they were always profusely entertained at his expense. At one of these festivals at Mr. Crawford's grounds (in June, 1873) fully three hundred persons were in attendance. In a report of it, furnished for publication by one who was present, the writer said: "Here we found a happy group, the scholars and friends of the Mount Pleasant Sunday-school, with a host of other friends. Here was music and flags, singing by the school and strains of music by the Independent Band, of Manayunk. . . . As we wandered around among the large assemblage we could scarcely decide who were the happier, the friends invited by the generous giver of the festival, the children laughing and romping in the very exuberance of joy or Mr. Crawford, the author of the occasion. Here was a literal fulfillment of the text 'It is more blessed to give than to receive;' for if the guests enjoyed the occasion, he who planned and executed this most successful festival had a double joy. . . . It was a gala-day long to be remembered by all present."

In 1874, Mr. Crawford's health became impaired so seriously as to induce him to journey South for its recovery. He visited the White Sulphur Springs, in Virginia, where he remained some time with apparently good results, but some time after his return it was found that the improvement had been but temporary; his malady came back upon him, and he died at his home on the 15th of April, 1875, in the fifty-third year of his age. His remains were interred in the Montgomery Cemetery, at Norristown. He left no will, and

the estate was administered on by his widow, Mrs. V. V. Crawford, who is now residing in the family mansion. The landed estate of Mr. Crawford consisted of the homestead farm property, and two other farms in Lower Merion township (aggregating four hundred and nineteen acres), and a farm of one hundred acres in Chester County. Included in the Lower Merion lands was the Brookfield property of two hundred and thirteen acres, which has since been sold to the Hon. Wayne McVeagh.

DAVID MORGAN.

The father of David Morgan, of Lower Merion township, was William H. Morgan, who was a son of Welsh parents, born in London, England, on the 27th of February, 1780. At about the age of fifteen years (his mother being then dead) he came to America with his father, who made his home in Philadelphia, and died there a few years after his arrival. The son, William H., learned the trade of gold-beater, and after a time commenced business for himself as a manufacturer of gold-leaf and of gilt frames for pictures and looking-glasses. To this business he also added that of publisher of children's books, printed illustrations of patriotic subjects, land and naval battles of the Revolution and war of 1812, and portraits of Presidents, generals and other distinguished men of the United States. His location was on the south side of Chestnut Street, between Third and Fourth Streets,—the same site now occupied by the building of the Guarantee Trust and Deposit Company. It was then numbered 114 Chestnut street, and was the first business stand opened on that street between Third and Fourth, the square having previously been entirely taken up by dwelling-houses. The building was Mr. Morgan's residence as well as his place of business, and the property remained in his possession until his death.

About 1827, Mr. Morgan removed from Chestnut Street to the north side of Market Street, just above Seventh, the number being then 709, which he also purchased and continued to own until his death. At that place he lived and carried on his business for about fourteen years. His wife was Sarah Colflesh, daughter of Henry Colflesh, one of the oldest residents of Montgomery County, whose residence was at Flat Rock Heights, in Lower Merion township. About 1838, Mr. Morgan closed his business and removed from Philadelphia to the farm which had been occupied by his father-in-law, at Flat Rock Heights. That farm continued in the ownership of Mr. Morgan until a few years before his death, when he sold it to William W. Hubbell. Within the past two years it has been purchased by Percival Roberts, Esq.

Mr. Morgan continued to live at the Lower Merion farm until about 1848, when he returned to the city and recommenced business on a property which he had purchased on Arch Street, above Fifth. There

he resided, and continued the business until his death, which occurred on the 25th of January, 1863, in his eighty-fourth year. His wife had died more than six years before him, November 10, 1856. Both were buried in the family vault, near the Fifth and Arch Streets corner of the ground of Christ Church, of which both had been members, Mr. Morgan having joined its membership soon after his arrival in Philadelphia.

David Morgan, son of William H. and Sarah (Col-flesh) Morgan, was born May 1, 1817, in Philadelphia, at his father's house, located (as before mentioned) on Chestnut Street, where now stands the building of the Guarantee Trust and Deposit Company. Until about the age of eighteen years he attended the schools of the city and learned his father's trade of gold-leaf manufacturer. At about the age mentioned he removed to Lower Merion township and commenced the gold-leaf business on his father's farm at Flat Rock Heights. He remained there until the latter part of 1844, when he purchased about eight acres of land adjoining the property on which he lives, on the Blockley and Merion turnpike, about half a mile from Merion Station and the same distance from Elm Station of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Mr. Morgan was married, May 31, 1846, by the Rev. H. G. Jones, of the Lower Merion Baptist Church, to Catharine H., daughter of Abraham Levering, of Lower Merion township. They have had three children,—Emma C., married, December 31, 1868, to William Simpson, Jr., of Philadelphia; Fannie, died May 30, 1875; and David, who died in infancy. For about four years after his marriage Mr. Morgan lived on the small property which he purchased as mentioned. He then purchased and removed to the homestead farm, which he has occupied from that time to the present, though doing business in Philadelphia. He was one of the incorporators of the Blockley and Merion Turnpike Company, one of its original and principal stockholders, was secretary and treasurer of the company for about twelve years, and has been one of its board of directors from the time of its first organization.

He was one of the original members of the Church of the Redeemer, at Bryn Mawr; was present at the first meeting held for the purpose of organization in Temperance Hall (on which occasion Bishop Potter preached the first sermon to the congregation); was a member of the building committee having charge of the erection of the church edifice, and a liberal contributor to the building fund, and he held the office of rector's warden in that church. Mr. Morgan was also largely instrumental in the organization of St. John's Church, in Lower Merion. He has been a vestryman and warden in that church from its formation, and was (with Isaac Hazlehurst and others) a principal contributor towards the erection of the church building in 1862. Since that time it has been enlarged, more ground has been purchased, and a Sunday-school building and a parsonage built, bringing the value of

the church property up to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars.

HAMILTON EGBERT.

Hamilton Egbert, a well-known citizen of Lower Merion township, in which, as a school-boy, merchant, farmer and conveyancer, he has lived for more than sixty years, is a descendant of the first Egbert who came to America in 1664 with the expedition under command of Admiral Carre and Governor Richard Nicolls to expel the Dutch from New Netherlands and establish the authority of the Duke of York. That ancestor made a settlement on Staten Island, where the family remained and increased during several generations, and where many of the name are still living.

Lawrence Egbert, grandfather of the subject of this memoir, moved to Montgomery County, Pa., before the Revolution and settled in Plymouth township, where his son, David N. Egbert, was born in 1788, and where Hamilton Egbert, son of David N. and Maria Egbert, was born September 18, 1821, he being the fourth in a family of twelve children, of whom only three are now living, namely,—Hamilton, Norman and Emily, wife of William Davis, of Conshohocken.

The mother of the family was Maria Yocum, who was married to David N. Egbert in 1815. She died in August, 1834. She was a daughter of John Yocum, of Lower Merion, and a granddaughter of John Yocum, Sr., who was a descendant of a Swedish family of that name, who came to America about 1655, and were among those who formed the settlement at Wicaco. Some of them were soon afterwards living at Swedes' Ford. More than a century later, in the time of the Revolution, the Yocums were numbered among the most prominent and patriotic families in the vicinity of Philadelphia.

In April, 1823, David N. Egbert removed from Plymouth to Merion Square, where for some years he held the office of justice of the peace, and where he continued the business of merchant and lumber-dealer until the year 1846. His son, Hamilton, worked in the store in the summer season, attending the common schools in winter, and for a term of about six months was under the tuition of Joshua Hoops, at his school in West Chester, where he gained an excellent knowledge of mathematics. In his nineteenth year he became a partner with his father, and in 1846, at the age of twenty-five, he, with his brother Norman, succeeded to the entire business, his father then retiring from it. Their business was that of a general store, and they made it a point to be always able to furnish any article whatever that might be called for.

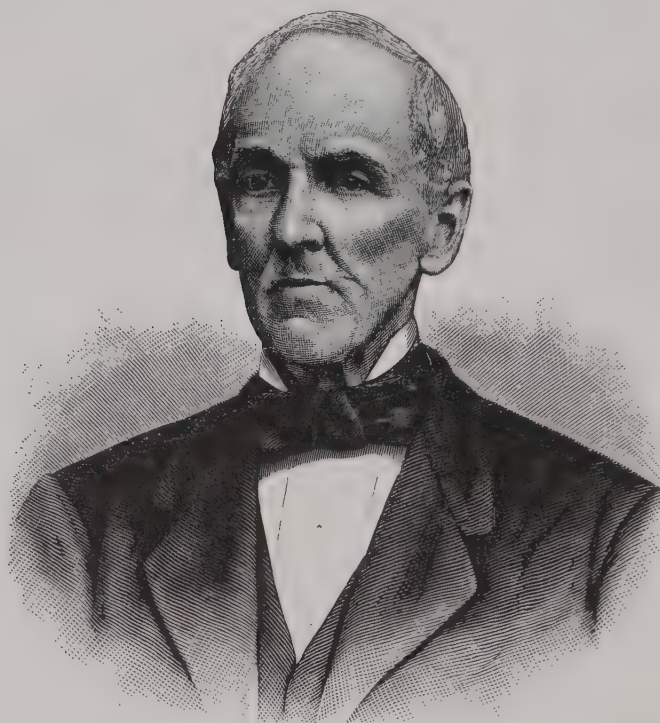
The labor of such a business (to which was added that of the postmastership of the place for a term of twenty years) was so severe and incessant that at the end of nineteen years from the time when he first became a partner with his father in the store Hamilton

Egbert found his health so completely prostrated as to compel him to relinquish the business. He did so in 1859, and removed to a tract of seventeen acres of land which he then purchased, and which is the same that he now occupies as his homestead. There he began a new mode of life as a farmer and conveyancer. The change entirely restored his health, and he has continued in those vocations to the present time. He has always declined to accept any public office, but he holds the position of president of the Bryn Mawr Loan and Building Association, and is also a director in the First National Bank of Conshohocken.

listown, at which he continued until 1841, when he went to Pottsville, Schuylkill Co., and engaged in the coal business, and in 1848 came to Lower Merion, Montgomery Co., where he commenced farming and continued in that business until 1859, when he retired to private life.

In 1848 he married Rebecca E. Pechin, daughter of Peter Pechin, of Radnor township, Delaware Co. They had four children—one son, who died when quite young, and three daughters, who are still living.

Joshua Ashbridge has always been a staunch Re-



Joshua Ashbridge

JOSHUA ASHBRIDGE.

Joshua Ashbridge, son of Thomas and Phoebe Garrett Ashbridge, was born in Willistown township, Chester Co., Pa., Seventh Month, 10th, 1806.

Joshua Ashbridge was the fourth in descent from George Ashbridge, who belonged to the Society of Friends, and arrived in Philadelphia Fifth Month, 5th, 1698, from England, and settled at Edgemont. He married, Eighth Month, 23d, 1701, at Providence Meeting, Mary Malin, of Upper Providence. He died in 1748. Joshua Ashbridge received a common-school education, then went into the wool manufacturing business with his father, Thomas Ashbridge, in Wil-

listown, adhering firmly to his party, and for thirteen years represented his district as committeeman.

THOMAS G. LODGE.

Thomas G. Lodge is a substantial land-owner, and now one of the oldest citizens of Lower Merion township, where he has lived for more than fifty years on the homestead farm, which he owns and occupies. His father was John Lodge, a farmer of Kingsessing township, Philadelphia Co., and his grandfather on the parental side was Abel Lodge, a descendant from ancestors of the same family name, who came

from England to Pennsylvania with the earliest settlers about the year 1682.

Thomas G. Lodge, son of John and Elizabeth (Reid) Lodge, was born at Kingsessing, March 23, 1811, he being the youngest, and now the only survivor of a large family of children, of whom only two besides himself lived to maturity, viz.: Abel, the eldest, born in 1794 and died in 1869, and Mary, who was born in 1796, married John S. Davidson, of New Jersey, and died in 1882.

In his youth, like most other farmers' sons of his time, Mr. Lodge enjoyed only such means of educa-

ing-place and his home. Mr. Lodge still owns the Kingsessing homestead.

WILLIAM MILES.

William Miles, of Ardmore, Lower Merion township, is a descendant of a Welsh ancestor of the same family name, who came with the earliest emigrants from Wales to America, and settled in Chester County, Pa., and from whom sprang the many Miles families who are now scattered through all the eastern part of the State, and less numerous through the states of the South and West. Among the descendants of this



Thos. G. Lodge

tion as were afforded by the common schools of his vicinity. Soon after reaching his majority he commenced the business which he had determined upon and which he has followed through all the succeeding years of his life,—the pursuit of agriculture. On the 20th of December, 1832, he was married to Susan Evans, daughter of Joseph and Mary Evans, of Lower Merion township, Montgomery Co., and a little more than a year later, in the spring of 1834, he removed from Kingsessing to the farm of his wife's parents (occupying a part of their house), which, having since been enlarged and improved by him, is now, as it has been for more than half a century, his dwell-

Welsh emigrant were three or four Miles brothers, who, eighty years ago, were living on farms in the vicinity of Radnor Church, in Delaware County, and one of whom was the father of the elder William Miles, to whose son William this biographical notice has especial reference. On the maternal side, the grandfather of the present William Miles was Christopher Taumiller (subsequently changed to Miller), who, with his brother Tobias, came from Germany to Pennsylvania more than one hundred years ago, and settled in what is now Lower Merion township, where they became well known as substantial farmers and good citizens. Both were original members in the organiza-

tion of the Lutheran Church, now of Ardmore, and were among the most liberal of its early supporters. Christopher Taumiller's place of settlement was on lands now of the estate of Charles Wheeler, deceased, north of Bryn Mawr. About 1810 his daughter Mary was married to William Miles the elder, and they became the parents of a large family of children, of whom only four lived to mature age,—John, who died in the summer of 1884; William, now living at Ardmore; Charles, who resides at Manchester, N. J.; and Catharine, wife of John Austin, of Norwood, Delaware Co., Pa.

for about seventeen years. In 1861 he gave up the work of his trade, and commenced at White Hall as a dealer in coal, lumber, lime and such other commodities as are usually kept in a business of that kind. He remained at White Hall until the Pennsylvania Railroad Company began building their straightened line by way of Bryn Mawr and Rosemont. Having purchased land at the latter place, he donated a part of it to the company, thus securing the location of the Rosemont Station, to which he then removed his coal and lumber business, and there continued to prosecute it steadily and profitably until the spring of 1884,



Wm Miles

William, son of William and Mary Miles, was born October 15, 1818, in Lower Merion township, on the farm a part of which his mother inherited from her father, Christopher Miller. He received only a common-school education, and at the proper age was apprenticed to learn the trade of carpenter. His apprenticeship was finished about six months before he became of age, and from that time till he was about twenty-six years old he worked as a journeyman at Manayunk, at Roxborough and in Lower Merion township. He then commenced business for himself at Athensville (now Ardmore), in which he continued

when he retired permanently from active business to live in ease and independence on his property at Ardmore, which he purchased for a homestead many years ago, and which was the first real estate he ever owned.

Mr. Miles was in his youth, for a number of years, a teacher of vocal music in the counties of Montgomery and Delaware, and in that vocation he realized profits amounting to a very considerable sum, which aided him materially in his later business. Energy, industry and perseverance have always been among his leading traits, and by the exercise of them,

together with his excellent judgment, he has amassed an estate more than ample for all his needs and requirements. From the time of reaching his majority he was a member of the old Whig party until it ceased to exist, and from that time to the present he has been a no less steadfast supporter of its Republican successor on all national questions and measures. He is, however, no partisan politician, and has never held or sought office. He is an attendant of the services of the Lower Merion Baptist Church, at Bryn Mawr, and is one of its trustees, though not a member of the

township, at the place now known as Ardmore, where he has lived from his birth until the present time. He was the eldest of a family of seven children,—four sons and three daughters. All the latter are still living, and two of the sons survive,—viz., William and his brother Charles, who resides in the State of Kentucky.

Like other boys of his age and time, William Sibley attended the common schools of the neighborhood, which furnished all his means of education, except such as he found in a three years' course of



Wm Sibley

religious organization. He has been also one of the vestrymen of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, at Bryn Mawr.

In November, 1851, Mr. Miles was married to Anna Broades, daughter of Richard and Mary Broades, of Lower Merion township. They have had two children,—Mary, who died September 12, 1879, at the age of twenty-six years, and Meta, who died of diphtheria in childhood.

WILLIAM SIBLEY.

William Sibley, son of Jacob and Catharine (Goodman) Sibley, was born July 16, 1810, in Lower Merion

study under the Hon. Joseph Fornance, afterwards a noted lawyer of Norristown, in which he acquired a thorough knowledge of mathematics, land-surveying and such matters of law as are necessary to the successful prosecution of the business of a conveyancer. After the close of this study under Mr. Fornance he commenced the business of teaching, and continued in that calling about six years, his school being taught during the last half of that period in a stone house which he built for the purpose in 1833. At the close of his school-teaching this house was changed into a dwelling, and has been occupied by him as his residence for nearly fifty years.

About 1836, Mr. Sibley commenced business as a land-surveyor and conveyancer, in which he has continued from that time to the present,—a period of nearly half a century,—during which he has surveyed the greater part of the lands in Lower Merion, as also a large proportion of those in the other lower townships of Montgomery and Chester Counties and many in the city of Philadelphia, and has drawn more than three thousand conveyances, giving general satisfaction and gaining the entire confidence of the community by constant adherence to the principle which he determined on in his youth,—to do exact justice to every one according to the best of his ability, without fear or favor.

ley, born August 18, 1847, and Anna Catharine Sibley, born May 25, 1849, and now the wife of James B. Law, who served as a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly for the term succeeding his election to that office in 1876.

SAMUEL LEVIS ROBESON.

Samuel Levis Robeson, the youngest of the five children of Samuel Levis Robeson, Sr., and his wife, Margaret Wunder, was born June 28, 1829, in Lower Merion township, on his father's farm, which, a half century earlier, had been the property of his great-grandfather, John Robeson, who, on the 1st of December, 1863, purchased the tract (one hundred and fifty-two acres) of



Samuel L. Robeson

Mr. Sibley held the office of justice of the peace for five years (1855–60) and served as school director twenty-six years, being treasurer of the board during the last sixteen years,—viz., from 1853 to 1869. At the end of that long term of service he declined to hold the position longer, though solicited to do so. For several years he was one of the trustees of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, and also secretary of the board; and he has been a supporter of the church, though not a member of the religious organization.

William Sibley was married, in 1839, to Catharine, daughter of Baltus Whiteman, of Athensville (now Ardmore). Their children are Thomas Jefferson Sib-

Edward and John Roberts, executors of the estate of Robert Roberts. John Robeson conveyed it by deed, dated October 1, 1791, to his son, Jonathan Robeson, by whom it was occupied during all his lifetime. At his death the property passed by inheritance to his son, Samuel L. Robeson, Sr., who owned it nearly half a century, and on the 14th of June, 1872, sold it to James Sawyer, of Vineland, N. J., who, in turn, sold to James and Joseph Butler, the first-named of whom is its present occupant and owner.

Of John Robeson, the ancestor, no record has been found. Jonathan, son of John and Ann Robeson, "was born 4th day of Ninth Month, 1745, O. S.," and died February 22, 1825, in the eightieth year of his

age. Samuel L. Robeson, the elder son of Jonathan and Hannah Robeson, was born on the 18th day of the Seventh Month, A.D. 1789, and died April 16, 1875. His wife, Margaret Wunder, was born October 24, 1796, and died February 16, 1881, in the eighty-sixth year of her age. The five children of these parents were: First, Jonathan Robeson, born February 3, 1817; studied medicine and surgery in Philadelphia, under Dr. McClellan, father of Major-General George B. McClellan; was graduated at Jefferson Medical College, March 8, 1838; died in his twenty-fifth year, in Hyde County, N. C., October 20, 1841. Second, Mary W. Robeson, born June 3, 1819, died, unmarried, October 2, 1882. Third, Amanda Robeson, born December 25, 1821. Fourth, George Riter Robeson, born November 8, 1824. Fifth, Samuel Levis Robeson, born in 1829, as before stated, and now (as for many years past) living on a property of twenty-six acres of land, located near the centre of Lower Merion township, on Mill Creek, and adjoining the farm of his brother, George R. Robeson, the two tracts having been originally embraced in one of about fifty-five acres, which was purchased by their father from Mary McClenachan, in April, 1844, it being part of a tract belonging to the estate of John Roberts, which was forfeited under the confiscation act of March 6, 1778.

Samuel L. Robeson is not a member of any church or meeting, but his affiliations are with the Society of Friends. He has never been a politician, and instead of seeking, he has avoided the holding of public office. He has always been engaged more or less extensively in the business of farming, to which, for nearly thirty years (1853-1882), he added that of dealer in lumber, being the owner of a good saw-mill on Mill Creek, near his residence. On the 24th of June, 1858, he married Louisa E., daughter of Jesse and Esther Thomas, of Lower Merion. Her father, Jesse Thomas, died March 21, 1882; his wife, Esther, died fourteen years earlier, February 14, 1868.

CHAPTER LXI.

LOWER SALFORD.¹

THIS may be regarded as one of the central townships of the county, and is bounded on the north and northwest by Franconia; south, by Perkiomen; northwest, by Upper Salford; and southeast, by Towamencin. In form it is nearly square, the greatest length and width being about four and a half miles, with an area of eight thousand nine hundred and thirty-six acres. The surface is rolling, and the soil red shale and loam. It is a fertile and productive township, under good cultivation and abounds in excellent farm buildings. The

Northeast Branch flows near its western boundary nearly four miles, receiving Indian Creek as a tributary. The Skippack has a course of two miles across its eastern corner. Into that stream Little Branch empties just outside the township, but near its southern boundary. These streams all furnish mill-power, which, in seasons of drought, through the want of unfailing springs, become seriously impaired. It is no unusual circumstance for the Skippack, although it has its origin in Bucks County, over five miles distant, to become entirely dried up a short distance above Mainland.

The principal public improvement in Lower Salford is the Sumneytown and Spring House turnpike, finished in 1848, which passes across the entire breadth of the township for a distance of nearly five miles. The turnpike from Lederachsville to Harleysville, one and a half miles in length, was completed in 1868, and from the latter place to Souderton, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, in 1865. The villages are Harleysville, Lederachsville and Mainland, each possessing a post-office. The population of Lower Salford, in 1800, was 524; in 1840, 1141; and in 1880, 1828. The real estate for taxable purposes, in 1882, was valued at \$1,059,225, and including the personal property, \$1,220,218, the aggregate per taxable being \$2711. In 1883 three hotels, four general stores, three jewelers, one boot and shoe, one hardware and one stove-store, one confectioner, one dealer in sewing-machines and three in flour and feed, were licensed. In 1858 the township contained only three stores. The public schools are ten in number, five months open, with an average attendance of three hundred and sixty pupils for the school year ending June 1, 1882. The census of 1850 returned 234 families, 234 houses and 136 farms. There are three houses of worship, belonging, respectively, to the Mennonites, Dunkards and Schwenkfelders. Three creameries have been recently established,—at Harleysville, Skippack Creek and Willow Dale.

Salford was formed into a township in 1727, if not earlier, and then comprised thirty thousand acres of land. The name was given to it from a town and several parishes of this name in England. By order of the Court of Quarter Sessions, in March, 1741, its territory was divided into the townships of Lower Salford, Upper Salford and Marlborough. The bounds of the former are thus described,—

“Beginning at a post in a line of Perkiomen and Skippack townships; thence by the same N. W. 685 perches to a Black Oak; thence by the same S. W. 86 perches to a Thorn Tree; thence by the same N. W. 204 perches to a post at a corner of Upper Salford township; thence by the same N. E. 126 perches to a post; thence by the same S. E. 2 perches to a post; thence by the same N. E. 78 perches to a stone; thence by the same N. W. 18 perches to a post; thence by the same N. E. 772 perches to a post; thence by the same N. W. 89 perches to a White Oak; thence by the same North East 165 perches to a post in a line of Franconia township; thence by the same S. E. 886 perches to a post; thence by the same N. E. 145 perches to a White Oak; thence by the same S. E. 384 perches to a post at a corner of Towamencin township; thence by the same S. W. 1233 perches to the place of beginning, containing 8165 acres.”

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

These boundaries do not quite agree with the present representations of the township on maps. The angle given about a mile north of Harleysville, on the Franconia line, in the aforesaid bounds has no existence, and then again we find several on the Perkio-men and Upper Salford line that have not been noticed. The fact becomes more and more apparent that there should be resurveys made of the townships and draughts thereof recorded, as well as monuments, planted at all boundary angles to save future disputes, particularly in the duties of township officials.

There is no doubt that some settlement was made in the township prior to any actual surveys or purchase. The earliest known was a warrant granted September 10, 1717, to David Powel, of Philadelphia, for three thousand acres of land, to be located between the "Skepeck" and a branch of the "Parkyooman." This whole tract was very irregular in shape, and from it six hundred and ninety acres, located on the Northeast Branch, were sold to Garret Clemens, February 14, 1717-18. It has been supposed that Gabriel Shuler was one of the earliest settlers; his purchase from the Powel tract was five hundred acres, which has now become divided into no less than eleven portions. Henry Ruth came from New Britain, Bucks Co., and purchased, August 15, 1719, two hundred acres, and John Isaac Klein's purchase comprised two hundred and fifty acres. Claus Johnson, of Bebbler's township, obtained two hundred and seven acres, and Conrad Custer about the same number; Hans Reiff, two hundred and forty-three acres; Andrew Lederach, about one hundred and twenty; John Lederach, one hundred and fifty; and Dillman Kulp about three hundred acres, which may have comprised the whole of Mr. Powel's original purchase. Claus Johnson and his wife, Catharine, "for the good will they bore to their son," John Johnson, granted unto him their aforesaid purchase.

On the 5th of Third Month, 1719, a warrant was granted to Humphrey Morrow and John Budd directing Jacob Taylor, surveyor-general, to survey for them nineteen hundred and twenty acres, as a part of a five thousand acre purchase. They conveyed, April 4 and 5, 1720, to Derrick Johnson or Janson, five hundred acres of the tract, and the latter sold to Dillman Kulp, of Salford, January 4, 1721, two hundred and twenty-five acres. Nicholas Scull conveyed to Andrew Lederach, April 2, 1728, one hundred and seven acres, adjoining his other land, and extending up to the northwest side of the present Lederachville. Derrick Johnson's tract was located at or near Indian Creek, and at a subsequent date five hundred and fifty acres more were granted him, being in all ten hundred and fifty acres. The southern corner of this tract was very near the Salford Mennonite Meeting-house, extending up along both sides of that stream to the Franconia line. Of this tract three hundred acres were still in his possession

at his death, about 1755. These lands he bequeathed to his son, Richard Johnson, and the latter devised them to his sister, Catharine Wister, probably Caspar Wister's wife, whose name was Catharine. The latter afterwards bequeathed it to her two daughters, Catharine Greenleaf and Rebecca, wife of Samuel Morris, who sold off portions of it as late as 1790.

In 1730, Caspar Wister and John Johnson purchased a tract of one thousand acres of Charles Reid, sheriff of Philadelphia, which was situated in the east corner of the township, extending from the Towamencin line towards Franconia, but on the north side of the present pike, it being watered by the Skippack Creek. One of the purchasers from the aforesaid was Hans George Delp, whose tract has also since become pretty well divided into smaller portions. Samuel Powel secured a grant, in 1721, in the south corner of the township. From him Jacob Reiff purchased five hundred and forty-six acres, and his brother, George Reiff, one hundred and sixty acres from the latter, on which they respectively settled and made the first improvements. Hans or John Reiff made his purchase from David Powel in 1718, and it is supposed that they, Gabriel Schuler and Henry Ruth, were among the earliest settlers in this section. Jacob Price or Preus was a purchaser, in 1720, of two hundred acres from Derrick Johnson, on Indian Creek, where he settled in 1721. The aforesaid list, though it may not be quite complete, will comprise the earliest purchases and settlers in the township.

To the diligent investigations of James Y. Heckler, near Harleysville, the writer is under great obligations for matters connected with this township's history, especially for locating the purchases and residences of its early settlers. Thus, from the list of 1734, the following have been assigned to Lower Salford, though the township was not divided until seven years later, the whole containing sixty-three names: Garret Clemmens, 150 acres; Jacob Clemmens, 100; John Clemmens, 50; Christian Allebach, 150; Henry Ruth, 100; Gabriel Schuler, 150; Hans Reiff, 100; Jacob Reiff, 150; George Reiff, 100; Andrew Lederach, 150; John Lederach, 150; Jacob Hoffman, 100; Nicholas Haldeman, 100; Christian Croll, 50; Christian Moyer, Jacob Price, 150; John Henry Snyder, 100; John Johnson, 150; Dillman Kulp, 150; John Isaac Klein, 130; Henry Slingluff, 50; Hans George Boochard, 100; Andrew Swartz, 150; Christian Stauffer, 120; Jacob Landis, 150; Galy Hefflyfinger, 150; Hans Clemmer, 100; John Vincent Meyer, 100; Hans Meyer, 150; John Scholl, 100 acres. The descendants of the Price, Clemmens, Johnson, Clemmer, Lederach, Kulp, Reiff, Croll, Allebach, Moyer and Landis families still hold lands in the township.

Gabriel Schuler settled on his tract, nearly a mile south of Harleysville, beside the Little Branch, now the property of G. D. Alderfer. His original purchase is stated to have been five hundred acres. In

1734 his land was represented to be one hundred and fifty acres. He appears to have been a mechanic, and made the pulpit of the old Goshenhoppen Church, which about 1747, he presented to the congregation of which he was a member. The road through the present Harleysville which was opened in 1735 to Gwynedd, passed by his house, which induced him, some time before 1758, to open a public-house which was kept by him for some time. The property descended to his son, Gabriel Schuler, Jr., who was rated in 1776 as holding one hundred and ninety acres, and keeping three horses and five head of cattle.

Jacob Price, or Preus, was a preacher among the Dunkards or German Baptists in Germany, and came from Witgenstein, in 1719, in company, it is stated, with Henry Slingluff. After a brief stay at Germantown with those of their denomination, he removed, in 1721, to his purchase by Indian Creek, in this township, which, in 1734, is represented to be one hundred and fifty acres. He soon erected a saw-mill on that stream, and did an extensive business. There has since been added a chopping-mill and later a grist-mill, owned now by J. K. Shutt. His son John married and settled down here, and had two sons,—Daniel and John. The latter moved to Franklin County, Pa., in early life. Daniel had thirteen children, of whom five sons and two daughters left descendants; their names being John, George, Henry, William, Daniel, Elizabeth and Hannah. Elizabeth was married to Jacob Weidner, and Hannah to John Clemmens. The aforesaid Daniel Price was rated in 1776 as holding three hundred and forty-five acres. The Price family has produced no less than seventeen ministers in the Dunkard Church. John Price, son of Jacob, was a poet as well as a minister, Christopher Saur, of Germantown, having published, in 1753, a small collection of his hymns. Elder William W. Price, who was born in 1789 on a part of the old homestead, in 1814 became a minister, which position he retained until his death, in 1849. He was the author of a number of German hymns, besides translating from the English some of the most popular, which were collected and published by J. E. Pfautz, at Ephrata, in 1838.

Jacob Reiff, who was one of the founders of the Reformed Church of Lower Salford in 1727, was born November 15, 1698, and was, most probably, the son of Hans George Reiff, who purchased two hundred acres of Henry Pennepacker, in 1724, and died in 1727. His widow died January 8, 1753, aged nearly ninety-one years. The aforesaid tract was situated in the southern corner of the township, and since been divided into four or five portions, the homestead being now owned by J. R. Tyson, a descendant of the family.

The Jacob Reiff mentioned was an enterprising man, and did much to improve this section of the country. His purchase, made in 1727, it is supposed, comprised about three hundred and eighty-six acres, and lay

adjoining the Towamencin line. He erected, about 1743, a grist-mill, thirty by sixty feet in size, near the mouth of the Little Branch, the race-way being nearly a mile in length. Jacob Reiff died February 16, 1782, aged upwards of eighty-three years; Anna, his wife, died October 28, 1788, aged seventy-nine. They were interred with the rest of the family in the burying-ground of the old Skippack Mennonite Meeting-house. He had sons, Jacob and George, and a daughter Catharine. Jacob Reiff, Jr., was born June 18, 1734, and married Catharine Schneider in August, 1756. They had seven children,—Jacob, John, Catharine, George, Elizabeth, Anna and Benjamin. John married Elizabeth, daughter of Christian Funk, and built what was known as the Funk Meeting-house, in 1814. They had three children,—John, Elizabeth and Mary. The latter John married a Miss Price, who was a member of the Indian Creek Dunkard Meeting. Both the aforesaid John Reiffs owned and resided at the mill. The latter bequeathed the meeting-house near his residence, but over the Towamencin line, to the Dunkards, who still retain it as a place of worship. He died about 1836-37, and the mill and farm descended to his son, Henry Reiff, who, through mismanagement, was compelled to part with it after so long a possession in the family, and it was purchased by Jacob Allebach, about 1839. In 1860 the mill was rebuilt and greatly improved, and in 1877 Joseph K. Nyce, the present owner, added a steam-engine, which is, however, only used in the driest seasons. In the assessment of 1776 we find Jacob Reiff, Jr., rated on two hundred and seventy-five acres, having eight children, two negroes, five horses and nine cattle, and thirty acres in Towamencin. George Reiff, brother of the aforesaid, was rated on two hundred acres, one servant, four horses and six cattle. The aforesaid Jacob Reiff, Jr., was the assessor of Lower Salford in 1776, and died February 25, 1816, aged eighty-one years, eight months and seven days; his wife, Catharine, died September 18, 1811, aged upwards of seventy-four years. George Reiff died January 24, 1808, and his wife, Elizabeth, June 25, 1817 aged seventy-seven years. Benjamin, son of Jacob Reiff, Jr., represented the county in the Assembly for seven years. The Reiffs have been an energetic family in Montgomery County, of whom a number have been millers.

Among the Germans who settled in Germantown may be mentioned Rudolph Harley, who had a son Rudolph, born in 1719, who married Mary, daughter of Peter Becker, of Germantown. They had thirteen children,—John, born 1741; Joanna, 1743; Lena, 1745; Maria, 1747; Rudolph, 1749; Elizabeth, 1750; Jacob, 1752; Henry, 1754; Sarah, 1756; Samuel, 1758; Joseph, 1760; Margaretta, 1762; and Abraham in 1765. Rudolph married Barbara Buch; Samuel married Catharine, daughter of Christopher Saur, of Germantown; Joseph married Catharine Reiff, and Abraham, Christiana Geisz. Samuel, the fifth son of

Rudolph, had ten children,—Daniel, born in 1787; Samuel, 1788; Mary, mother of Abraham H. Cassel, 1789; Sarah, 1791; John, 1792; Catharine, 1793; Joseph, 1795; Elizabeth, 1797; besides Jacob and Abraham. In the assessment of 1776, Rudolph Harley is rated as holding two hundred and sixty acres of land, four horses and eight cattle; Rudolph Harley, Jr., three horses and six cattle; and Jacob as a single man. Samuel Harley, the son of Rudolph of the second generation, was born in 1758, and was the founder of Harleysville, to which place he moved about 1790. The property here came into possession of his son, Abraham Harley, who kept the hotel, at which the township elections were held, and had the post-office established.

Christopher Kriebel and his wife, Maria, arrived in Pennsylvania in 1734, with their children,—George, Susanna, Christopher, Anna, Maria and Rosina. He died May 14, 1741. George Kriebel married Susanna, daughter of Balthasar and Regina Yeakel, November 25, 1740. Their children were George and Andrew. He died September 2, 1778, aged sixty-three years. Christopher Kriebel married Maria, daughter of George Dresher, August 10, 1748. Their children were Abraham, Rosina, Jeremiah, Anna and Susanna. He died December 3, 1800, aged eighty years. In the assessment of Lower Salford for 1776, Christopher Kriebel was rated for 120 acres; George Kriebel, 125; and Andrew Kriebel, 106 acres.

Balthasar Heydrick and wife, Rosina, came to Pennsylvania in 1734. They had two sons, Christopher and George. The latter was born September 22, 1737, and married Rosina, daughter of Balthasar Krause, June 17, 1760. Their children were Susanna, Balthasar, Eve, Rosina and George. He was rated in the assessment of 1776, as holding one hundred acres. George died January 29, 1824, aged eighty-six years, and his wife, Rosina, October 29, 1828, aged ninety-one years and six months. He owned the place now occupied by Samuel Heydrick, near the eastern corner of the township.

Balthasar Hoffman arrived September 12, 1734, with his children,—Anna, Rosina and Christopher. He was born in Harpersdorf, Silesia. He early embraced the religious principles of Caspar Schwenkfeld. By close application he gained a knowledge of the Latin, Greek and Hebrew languages, to enable him the better to understand the Scriptures. On the death of the Rev. George Weiss, the first minister of the Schwenkfelders in America, Mr. Hoffman was chosen to officiate in his place, which was acceptably filled. He died from increasing debility July 11, 1775, in his eighty-ninth year. His wife, Ursula, died May 15, 1767, aged eighty years. He resided on the east side of the Skippack Creek, adjoining Towamencin and the present meeting-house, the property being now owned by Henry Derstine. Christopher Hoffman, son of Balthasar, married Rosina, daughter of George Dresher, May 17, 1753. He died January 29,

1804, aged seventy-six years. He was an acceptable minister in the church. In the assessment of 1776 he was rated for a farm of eighty-three acres.

George Weiss, the first minister of the Schwenkfelder denomination in America, was a son of Caspar Weiss, and was born in Harpersdorf, Lower Silesia, Austria, in 1687. He married, in 1715, Anna Meschter, of Langenneudorf. Owing to religious persecution, he, with his wife and friends, fled in the night, leaving their property behind, and went to Herrnhut, in Saxony, on the 5th of May, 1726. During his eight years' stay at that place he followed weaving and teaching. He arrived in Pennsylvania in September, 1734, with the colony of Schwenkfelders, and settled on a farm by the Skippack Creek, in Lower Salford. After a residence here of about a year and a quarter, Mr. Weiss was formally appointed the first minister and catechist of the denomination in this country. He continued in the office, giving general satisfaction until his death, which occurred March 11, 1740, in his fifty-third year. He was interred in the graveyard of the Lower Salford Meeting-house, where a stone has been erected to his memory as its first pastor. Some of the information here given, as also several other facts in relation to the Schwenkfelders in this section, has been obtained from the genealogical record of that denomination, published in 1879.

On the 15th of April, 1734, a tract of land containing six hundred and ninety acres was granted by patent to Garret Clements. Parts of this large tract were sold by him to his sons,—Jacob, Abraham and John. To the latter he sold, September 6, 1738, "a certain grist-mill messuage, plantation and tract of land, on a branch of Perkiomen Creek." The tract contained one hundred and forty-one acres. It is ascertained from old manuscripts that the grist-mill was built by Garret Clements in 1726, and that Jacob Souder was the millwright and received for his labor thirty-three pounds. John Clements owned and operated the mill property to May 25, 1764, when he sold it to Frederick Alderfer, who conveyed it to his son, John, July 1, 1776.

Although it does not appear that the Alderfers were an early family in the township, they have now become numerous and influential, holding here a considerable amount of real estate. The voters' list for 1883 furnishes twenty-six names. In the assessment of 1776 we find the names of Frederick Alderfer, miller, holding four hundred and ninety acres, and John and Jacob Alderfer, his sons. The mill property is situated on the Northeast Branch, a mile north of Lederachsville. It is now owned by J. S. Groff, a son-in-law of the family. The wooden bridge over the stream here was built by the county about 1835.

George Heckler, the ancestor of that family, was a son of Michael, and was born in 1736 at Retchweiler, in Lower Alsace, then belonging to France. He was apprenticed to the tailor trade, at fifteen years of age and he became free at eighteen. To perfect him-

self in the occupation, he was then required to travel three years as a journeyman. This opportunity determined him to flee to America, if possible. He fortunately succeeded, and arrived in Philadelphia in the ship "Neptune," from Rotterdam, September 30, 1754. Such was his poverty that he was unable to pay his fare, and was sold by the captain for three years' service as a redemptioner. He was purchased by John Steiner, of Coventry township, Chester Co., opposite Pottstown, who paid for his time forty-eight dollars of our present currency. After his freedom he came to Lower Salford, where he in 1764, married Christiana, daughter of Peter Freid. Through his industry and judicious management he succeeded so well that in 1785 he purchased his father-in-law's farm, of two hundred and forty-three acres, for two thousand pounds, or about twenty-two dollars per acre. He was in the general practice of carrying his surplus produce to the city on horseback. He died August 28, 1816, having attained upwards of eighty years, and left to his descendants a handsome estate.

The Freid family were early settlers in Salford. In the list of 1734 is found the name of Hans Freid, owning one hundred acres. In the assessment of Lower Salford for 1776, John Freid is mentioned as holding one hundred acres, and Peter Freid, two hundred and ninety acres, one servant, three horses and seven cattle. The latter, besides two daughters, had a son, John, to whom he granted a water-right, dated May 4, 1775, on a part of the Gabriel Schuler property, for a dam to irrigate the meadow, which is kept in good repair to this day. There was at least one other son, whose name has been forgotten. Peter Freid had purchased the farm from Hans Reiff in March, 1746. He had resided on the place thirty-nine years, and in the erection of the Salford Mennonite Meeting-house was a liberal contributor. His death occurred in 1791, aged about seventy-six years. The Freids are still land-holders in the township, residing near the Franconia line.

Christopher Dock, the noted teacher and poet, lived and died in Lower Salford. At what time he arrived from Germany has not been ascertained, but the earliest known of him is as a teacher at Germantown, where he taught school at intervals for at least four years. He purchased in the township, the 28th of Ninth Month, 1735, a tract of one hundred acres for fifteen and one-half pounds, adjoining or near the Perkiomen line. Upon that tract he settled and made the first improvements. In 1738 he gave up farming and resumed teaching, which he continued with great success to the close of his life. At the request of Christopher Saur, the printer at Germantown, he was induced to prepare a work, in German, on school-teaching, which he was finally prevailed upon to have published in 1769, making a pamphlet of fifty-four octavo pages, containing practical suggestions on the subject. After the death of his wife he made his home with Henry Cassel, who was mentioned

in the census of 1756 as a weaver and farmer. His daughter Margaret was married to Peter Janson, a well-to-do farmer in Skippack, and Catharine married Henry Strycker, of Salford. He was a zealous member of the Mennonite denomination, the religious element of which entered largely into his mode of education and for whom he alone labored. He died suddenly, in the fall of 1771, being found lifeless in his school-room, after the pupils had been dismissed. He was buried in the graveyard belonging to the old Skippack Mennonite Meeting, where probably no stone bears an inscription to denote the spot. Specimens of his "Fractur" and "Vorschriften" have been preserved in the Cassel family, and display splendid penmanship. Several of his hymns were collected and printed by Michael Billmyer, of Germantown, in 1790, and exhibit considerable merit. Some of these were expressly composed to be sung by his pupils, whom he instructed in vocal music.

Inns were established in Lower Salford at an early period, owing to the opening of the main road leading from the present Sumneytown, through this township, down to Gwynedd in 1735. This, with the increase of settlement above, led to a considerable amount of travel to Philadelphia with produce or for merchandise. John Isaac Klein, kept an inn in the lower part of the present Harleysville, and also Gabriel Schuler, half a mile farther down the road, no doubt some time before 1750. Both of those places possessed unfailing springs of water, which was a desideratum to travelers in dry seasons. Some time before 1766, Frederick Dickensheit kept an inn, known as the sign of the "Stag," which was kept by George Schwenk in 1802, by Balthasar Heydrick in 1822, and afterwards by Wm. Reiff, who removed the sign about 1836. It has since been a private house, and is now owned by John Binder. Two inns were located at Mainland in the beginning of this century, if not earlier. One had for its sign the "White Horse," subsequently changed to "The Half-Way house," because situated midway between Maxatawny, (from whence there was considerable travel,) and the city.

During the second schism of the Mennonite Church which originated near the beginning of this century, the portion who withdrew erected for themselves a small one-story stone meeting-house, a mile northeast of Harleysville, near the present turnpike leading to Souderton. Those who built it were known as the Herrites, who held to extreme views,—among the rest, that members should not attend nor hear the preaching or teaching of any other denomination whatever, and that they should rigidly adhere to their doctrines. By 1850 they had diminished so that the building was used only as a school-house, and five years later was torn down. It is supposed now that they have become extinct here, but a few scattered members are said to remain in the townships of Worcester and Whitpain, also in Lancaster County and some

parts of the West. The late Professor I. D. Rupp, has written and had published a pamphlet on extinct denominations in Pennsylvania; whether they have been included by him among the number has not been ascertained.

Harleysville is situated on the Sumneytown and Spring House turnpike, in the northern portion of the township. It contains one hardware, one tinware, one shoe, one feed and one general store, two clothing manufacturing establishments, one jeweler and watchmaker, one undertaker, one baker, one hotel, four physicians, several mechanic shops, a creamery and forty-two houses. It is an improving place and the buildings are large, neat and built of stone, frame and brick. In 1858 it contained a store, hotel, several mechanic shops and eleven houses, and in 1870 had increased to twenty dwellings. The turnpike to Sumneytown and the Spring House was built in 1848, the pike to Lederachsville in 1868 and to Souderton in 1865. The first and only house in the place during the Revolution was that of Nicholas Schwenk, a blacksmith, who owned here, in 1776, one hundred and fifty acres of land. Samuel Harley built a tavern-house here about 1790, and, in connection with the same, kept a store, for many years doing an extensive business. He is regarded as the founder of the place, and after him it has been called. Abraham Harley, son of Samuel, afterwards became the owner of the property and at his house the township elections were held for some time. In 1840 he succeeded in having the post-office established there, none previously being nearer than Sumneytown, five miles distant. The mail is now brought daily from North Wales over the turnpike. The oldest house in the township is supposed to be over one half a mile below this, and now owned by Adam Fisher. It was built by Nicholas Rary in 1748, one story high, but in 1812 was raised to two stories and repaired. The creamery at Harleysville was built in 1881, and its business has been increased to above twelve thousand pounds of milk, making daily four hundred and fifty pounds of butter, besides a considerable quantity of cheese.

Lederachsville is situated near the central part of Lower Salford, and at the intersection of six roads. It has become an improving place, containing now two stores, a hotel, telegraph-office, smith-shop and twenty-three houses. It occupies an elevated situation, affording a fine prospect of the surrounding country, which is well cultivated and productive. The place, for its size, has been very little given to manufacturing. The post-office was established here in 1857, and Septimus Kriebel was appointed postmaster. The road passing through here from Sumneytown to Skippack is an ancient highway, having been opened in 1728, and being the first from this section leading to the city. The village owes its origin to Henry Lederach, who built the first house here in 1825. He next put up a blacksmith-shop and carried on smithing for several years, after which he opened a store. Another store was opened by

Jacob Zeigler, about 1833, when Mr. Lederach obtained a license for a hotel, and thus the foundations for the village were laid. By the list of 1734, Andrew and John Lederach were the owners of three hundred acres of land. In 1776, Henry Lederach owned one hundred and thirty-two acres, Andrew Lederach one hundred and fifty, and John Lederach one hundred and fifty, denoting in the family an attachment to real estate. About one-quarter of a mile to the southeast of the village is the old Lederach graveyard, on the farm now owned by Abraham K. Freid. A stone has on it "C. L., 1776," another, "H. L., De. 24, 1799." An opinion is entertained that this ground has become reduced by cultivation and that some of the stones have disappeared. Several Indian squaws were also buried here, being the last survivors of those who lingered about in the village. This ground passed out of the Lederach family about twenty years ago, and it remains unclosed and neglected.

Mainland is situated on the turnpike to Gwynedd, adjoining the Towamencin line and the Skippack Creek. It contains a store, hotel, post-office and thirteen houses, besides several mechanic shops. The bridge over the Skippack Creek was built by the county in 1843, at which time the tavern and store were kept by Jonas Boorse, and the place was then known only as Boorse's Tavern. The post-office was not located here until 1877. The inn, in the beginning of the century, had for its sign "The White Horse," subsequently changed to the "Half-Way House." Another public-house existed about half a mile farther up the road towards Harleysville, which ceased business in 1834. During the Revolution, Washington and the army were encamped in this immediate vicinity for eight days, chiefly on the Towamencin side. About half a mile west of the village was the Stouffer property, now owned by J. D. Alderfer, which had been in their possession a long time. In October, 1777, it was occupied by Mathias Stouffer, at whose house several of the American officers connected with the camp took lodgings. The road through the village did not exist at that time, but crossed the Skippack half a mile below, passing Stouffer's and entering the present road at the Mennonite meeting-house. This change was brought about in straightening the old road.

Among the extensive industries of this section deserving notice is the manufacture of clothing for the city trade, which had its rise under singular circumstances. John Binder, a German tailor, residing on a small farm near Harleysville, in August, 1849, proceeded to Philadelphia with a small load of produce to help meet his expenses. Near Third and Market Streets was a clothing-store kept by a German, with whom he was acquainted. From him he secured some work to take home and make up in his family. On returning it he secured more, and so from the honest and faithful manner that he attended to it the business kept increasing, so he was offered more than he

and his family could make. He then gave some of it out to other poor families of the neighborhood, until it became a remunerative business. He received the goods in a trunk and returned the clothing therein until sewing-machines became introduced, which enabled him to further enlarge the business. In the Rebellion he thus became enabled to take large contracts of making clothing for the army, so that his business from 1860 to 1863 amounted to \$55,000 annually. His success had been such that he withdrew, and the business was taken up by others. His son, S. B. Binder, entered into it in April, 1874, hauling the goods every week in a wagon with one horse; but he soon after used a two-horse team and next three horses, until he has attained to four loads every week, making eight thousand four hundred garments or four hundred and thirty-six thousand eight hundred in a year, weighing over two hundred and ninety-one tons. Besides the aforesaid, the business is also followed by John Egolf, in Harleysville, and by John Lutz, who resides about a mile distant. There are also others engaged in the clothing manufacture in Perkiomen and other townships, which, it will be seen gives considerable employment to families at their own homes, and thus greatly adds to the prosperity of the neighborhood, Mr. Binder alone now paying out annually for this labor nearly seventy thousand dollars. From the number of sewing-machines now used, a repairer of them resides in Harleysville, who has thus been kept busy for several years past.

The Schwenkfelder Meeting-House.—The meeting-house of this denomination is situated in the eastern corner of the township, near Skippack Creek, and within a few yards of Towamencin line. The present edifice is a one-story stone building, erected in 1869, thirty-five by forty-six feet in dimensions, and stands about one hundred yards from the road, beside a wood. The graveyard is small in size, not covering a quarter of an acre of ground, but is kept in neat condition. The names on the tombstones are Heydrick or Heidrick, Fischer, Flin, Schreider, Hoffman, Meschter, Kreibel, Weand and Faull. No stone was observed bearing an earlier date than 1801. Considering the time of its establishment, the number of graves appear small. The Rev. George Weiss, the first minister, was buried here in March, 1740. The present pastor is the Rev. George Meschter, son of Christopher and Catherine Meschter, born March 28, 1808. He resides on a small farm adjoining, in Towamencin. The services here are still confined to the German language.

The congregation dates back to an early period, the members having settled around here probably in 1734, or soon after, for Mr. Weiss was formally made their minister in 1735 or the following year, in which capacity he served them until his death. He was succeeded by the Rev. Balthasar Hoffman, who remained in charge till near his death, which took place

in 1775, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, and he is also buried here. Through the exertions of the Rev. Christopher Schultz a more complete organization of the church was effected which went into operation in August, 1782. No edifice was expressly used by them for worship in the county until 1789; previously for this purpose the society assembled at private houses, and in the absence of a pastor the services were conducted by one of the members. There was a school-house at this place, erected in 1764, which was also used by the members for worship down to the erection of the present meeting-house, in 1869. The school was kept in operation through a fund of seven hundred and fifty pounds, Pennsylvania currency, raised by subscription, the interest of which was early applied for the purpose.

During the French and Indian war the members settled around here raised by subscription the handsome sum of two hundred and sixty pounds in aid of the Friendly Association, to gain and preserve peace with the exasperated Indians on the frontiers. This paper was signed by forty-two persons, and is dated Lower Salford, November 13, 1756. They state therein "that they are a few families of a dispersed people from Silesia, who have always, under God's blessing, maintained themselves by the labor of their hands, having been forced to leave their estates behind." The names of these subscribers are George Andrews, George Kriebel, Byer's Estate, George Heydrick, Balthasar Heydrick, Hans Heebner, George Hoffman, Christopher Heebner, David Heebner, George Heebner, Caspar Heydrick, Melchior Hartranft, Christopher Hoffman, Balthasar Hoffman, Christopher Yeakle, Abraham Yeakle, Balthasar Yeakle, Caspar Kriebel, Balthasar Krauss, Christopher Kriebel, Melchior Kriebel, Christopher Krauss, George Dresher, Christopher Dresher, Melchior Meister, Christopher Meister, David Meister, Christopher Neuman, Christopher Reinwalt, Melchior Scholtz, George Scholtz, Gregorius Scholtz, David Scholtz, George Scholtz, Jr., Christopher Scholtz, Caspar Seipt, Johannes Yeakle, Christopher Yeakle, Maria Yeakle, Christopher Wagner, Hans Weigner and Melchior Weigner. These, no doubt, constituted the larger number of the denomination then residing within the present limits of the county to which it has in the past been almost confined. They are said to have become extinct now for some time in Europe. Hence the greater interest has been attached to their history here. They have always been a well-disposed and industrious people, remarkable, according to their lately published "Genealogical Record," for longevity.

The Salford Mennonite-Meeting House.—This place of worship is situated about one mile west of Harleysville, and was built in 1850 of stone, one story high, forty-five by fifty-five feet in dimensions. It stands on elevated ground, with ample shedding attached and an open, unfenced woods adjoining. Josiah Clemmer, the bishop, resides in Franconia and his diocese extends also over Lower Salford and

Towamencin. The ministers are Isaac C. Clemmer and Jacob C. Moyer; Deacon, Jacob Kulp. The membership is upwards of two hundred and fifty. The services are still exclusively confined to the German. The grounds attached to the meeting-house comprise ten acres, upon which is also erected a dwelling for the sexton.

The graveyard is large, and many have been buried here. The oldest tombstone observed bears the date of 1741 and another of 1760. The surnames which appear upon the stones are Alderfer, Kolb, Oberholtzer, Frederick, Lederach, Freid, Detweiler, Gottschall, Höring, Clemer, Benner, Ritter, Kratz, Saylor, Zeigler, Neisz, Shelly, Schlafer, Krupp, Scholl, Metzger, Bean, Moyer, Clemense, Lukens, Heckler, Greisz, Sleiber, Merkle, Musselman, Stoll, Kensey, Schultz, Sauder, Groff, Snyder, Cassel, Berge, Springer, Schott, Halteman, Weber, Custer, Pannebacker, Weil, Metz, Deterey, Hunsberger, Hendricks, Rosenberger, Wampole, Richards, Hose, Nyce, Delp, Bealer, Lower, Wierman, Strunk, Butterweck, Trumbauer and Tyson. The tombstones are of various sizes and designs, some being four and a half feet high, and the inscriptions are about as numerous now in English as in German. The Mennonites, though a plain people in dress, unlike the Society of Friends, permit individuals to exercise their own judgment respecting the size, inscription and pattern of their monuments, as may be observed in any of their cemeteries.

The congregation possesses no early records; hence the time of the erection of the first house of worship here is uncertain. Some have made it as early as 1730, and it is probable that it goes back at least to 1741. Henry Ruth, whose residence was here from 1718 to 1747, mentions, in a deed to Christian Stouffer, that one acre had been taken out for the use of a Mennonite meeting-house ground, without giving any date. Some have supposed the present meeting-house the third erected here. The one torn down in 1850 is represented as a very ancient-looking structure. Among the ministers here in the past have been — Oberholtzer, Christian Haldeman, Isaac Alderfer, John Bergey and Jacob Kulp. The Mennonites are a numerous body in Lower Salford and the adjoining townships of Franconia, Hatfield, Towamencin and Perkiomen. As a people, they show a strong attachment to an agricultural life, being prudent managers, excellent farmers and supporting their own poor.

The Salford Dunkard Meeting-House.—This meeting-house is situated near the extreme northern corner of the township, on the turnpike leading to Sumneytown, and on the west side of Indian Creek which name has also been applied to this congregation. The present substantial house of worship was built in 1851, of stone, thirty-eight by fifty-six feet in dimensions, with a basement kitchen and fireplace for the purpose of holding love-feasts and communions. The present ministers are William P.

Nice, Jonas Harley, Henry A. Price and Jacob Booz, with a membership at present reaching nearly two hundred. Baptisms are performed in the neighboring stream, usually in the meadow of Abraham H. Cassel. There is no graveyard here, the rock being so near the surface as to render it impracticable for the purpose. To accommodate this need, the Harley and Stouffer burial-grounds, near by, have been enlarged to four times their former size for the use of the congregation. The former is located just over the Franconia line, and was commenced by Rudolph Harley in 1745; one tombstone has the date of 1758. On this lot a frame meeting-house, thirty by forty-two feet, was built in 1843, in which worship is held on alternate Sundays.

Members of this denomination were among the early settlers in the neighborhood, Indians being still in the vicinity and residing by the stream, from which circumstance it received the name. Jacob Price, a minister in Germany, settled here in 1721, and with several others is stated to have organized a society for holding worship at private houses in 1723. At what time the first meeting-house was erected here is not exactly known, but it was, no doubt, before the close of the last century. It was a frame structure, of about thirty feet square, to which, in 1830, was made an addition of twenty feet and the whole placed in good repair. But the congregation increasing, and again becoming too small, it was resolved in 1851 to tear the whole down, when the present meeting-house was erected in its place. For this purpose the ground was given gratis by Abraham Harley and John Price. The deed therefor was executed May 1, 1806, and was conveyed in trust to Rudolph Harley, Samuel Harley, Ulrich Stouffer, Abraham Kämpfer, George Reiff, George Price and Henry Price, in behalf of the members. The aforesaid surnames are still those of the leading families, except that of Kämpfer, which has become extinct. The Price family here has furnished no less than seventeen ministers to the church, Henry A. Price being now of the sixth generation. In 1870 the Dunkards, or German Baptists, as they are sometimes called, had nine houses of worship in the county.

The Story of Reiff's Early Church.—It is supposed that one of the earliest organized Reformed congregations possessing a house of worship in charge of a regularly ordained minister in Pennsylvania was located in Lower Salford, about two miles south of Harleysville, and nearly three-fourths of a mile west of the Skippack Creek. In this immediate vicinity resided Jacob Reiff, who made a purchase, in 1727, of several tracts of land, supposed to be in all three hundred and eighty-six acres, upon which he made extensive improvements; among the rest, a grist-mill, in 1743, thirty by sixty feet in dimensions, near the mouth of the Little Branch and Towamencin line. His parents and several brothers also settled in the vicinity on extensive purchases that they had made somewhat earlier.

The Rev. George Michael Weiss, a Reformed minister, who had graduated at Heidelberg, and a native of Stebbach, on the Neckar, arrived in Philadelphia in the ship "William and Sarah," September 21, 1727, accompanied by a considerable number of his countrymen. He is represented as speaking the Latin fluently, and in the spring of 1730 advertised in the *American Weekly Mercury* to teach logic, natural philosophy and metaphysics. Report has it that he came immediately after his arrival into Salford with some of his followers, and here he at once organized a congregation, with the assistance of those that had preceded him in the neighborhood, who that fall erected a log church, the first belonging exclusively to this denomination in Pennsylvania. The Rev. John Henry Goetschy attended here during 1731. Mr. Weiss reported in that year that the Reformed members numbered fifteen thousand in America, which appears a high estimate. The trustees of the church are stated to have been Jacob Deemer, Michael Hillyas, Peter Hillyas, Jost Schmidt, Heinrich Weller, Jacob Siegel and William Rohrich.

In 1729, or the following year, Mr. Weiss, in company with Jacob Reiff, who had now become an elder, proceeded to Holland to make collections in behalf of the denomination and for the purchase of Bibles and other religious works. The Rev. Michael Schlatter, on his arrival in America, was instructed by the Synods of North and South Holland to visit Mr. Reiff and Mr. Weiss for an account of the moneys they had collected and had disbursed for the benefit of the Pennsylvania churches. After considerable trouble and delay, in October, 1746, the matter was settled by arbitration, though it appears from the correspondence on the subject not very satisfactorily, by Mr. Reiff refunding one hundred and thirty-five pounds after deducting his expenses. The result was that the matter made considerable talk, so much so that Mr. Schlatter came out in a brief advertisement in Mr. Saur's Germantown paper to calm the public mind by exonerating Mr. Reiff's conduct, without any allusion, however, to Mr. Weiss' participation, which did not mend matters, and may have led to his abandonment of the Skippack congregation from that date. Unfortunately, in this connection, the church had been built on a portion of Mr. Reiff's land, and he is charged with having refused to give a title or deed to the members for the ground; hence they became so disgusted as to be unwilling even to keep it in repair, and thus it went to decay.

But the most unfortunate affair in connection with it was the fate of the graveyard, in which, no doubt, interments were made as early as the erection of the church, and which was actually used for this purpose until about the year 1800. Some have estimated that within that period from one hundred to one hundred and sixty may have been buried here. Besides the common stones, there were here between thirty and forty white marble tombstones with inscriptions. Among

those remembered were stones to the memory of Gabriel Schuler and wife, Catharine, besides others of the name and several of the Stong family. The property, by purchase, came in possession of Jesse Anderson, who built the house here about 1841 or 1842. He was a mason, with a family of boys, who are charged with having commenced taking up the tombstones while he was following his trade. It was eventually sold by John W. Stouffer, the sheriff, December 10, 1859, to John George Nuss as containing *seventeen acres* of land. He was a native of Germany, and moved on the place and now commenced removing the remainder of the stones, until they all disappeared, when the ground was put under cultivation. It is said that several neighbors remonstrated with him on the subject, to which he replied that he had bought all, and would cultivate all. The tradition of the neighborhood is that the tombstones were put in wash-gullies and covered over, likely to be revealed some day. Mr. Nuss and Anna Maria, his wife, sold the place, April 6, 1864, to Elizabeth Berndt, as is mentioned in the deed, for *eighteen acres*; thus it will be seen that through the demolition of the graveyard the place had not been reduced in area.

We shall now return to the old church, that, through neglect, was hastening to decay. The Old Goshenhoppen Church, five miles distant, was erected jointly by the Lutherans and Reformed in 1744, but was not fully finished until 1748. It was sufficiently near to somewhat affect the membership. Hence it was the policy of the congregation to locate at some advantageous spot more remote from the former, and thus it came that they finally fixed, in 1760, upon the present site of Wentz's Church, in Worcester township, but little over two miles distant, on the old Skippack road. The deed of conveyance for the ground is dated January 2, 1762, from John Lefevre and Christina, his wife, and Jacob Wentz, and Elizabeth, his wife, to Philip Wentz, Peter Wentz, Jacob Weber, Philip Spare, Henry Conrad and Jacob Reiff, Jr., in trust for the congregation. The church was commenced in 1762, but was not fully completed until 1771.

The Rev. George Michael Weiss received the charge of the New Goshenhoppen and Swamp congregations in 1746, and continued there until his death, in 1761. He was buried in the New Goshenhoppen Churchyard, where a neat marble stone has been erected to his memory. Jacob Reiff died February 16, 1782, aged eighty-three years, and was buried in the graveyard of the old Skippack Mennonite meeting-house, a greater distance from his residence than to Wentz's Church. There is reason to believe that through the investigations of his financial affairs with the church, and the scandal it led to, he severed his connections therewith as a member, and no evidence has yet been produced to the contrary. Jacob Reiff, Jr., mentioned in 1762 as one of the trustees of Wentz's Church, was his son.

In connection with the Reiff Church, as it has been commonly called, considerable error has been disseminated—Mr. Weiss having been made its pastor several years before he had actually arrived in America. The church has been represented as having been torn down at dates many years apart, and its materials applied to various contradictory uses, without any plausibility as to the facts. The fate of this church and its graveyard certainly teaches a humiliating lesson on human avarice; for through this cause the site of either can now scarcely be pointed out, though the traditions concerning them will long linger with no credit to the parties that have hastened the result.

ASSESSMENT OF LOWER SALFORD, 1776.

Jacob Reiff, Jr., assessor, and William Gergas, collector.

Rudolph Harley, 260 acres, 4 horses and 8 cows; Jacob Grubb, 130 a, 3 h., 5c.; Harman Acke, 45 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Gabriel Kline, 150 a., 1 servant, 3 h., 5 c.; John Alderfer, 1 h., 5 c.; Jacob Alderfer, 1 h., 3 c.; Isaac Kratz, 2 h., 2 c.; Valentine Kratz, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; William Gergas, 150 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Abraham Clements, 250 a., 4 h., 7 c.; Christian Bergey, 150 a., 5 h., 7 c.; Christian Halteman, 130 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Isaac Markley, 125 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Henry Heffelfinger, 180 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Heffelfinger, 1 h., 2 c.; Godshalk Godshalk, 150 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Andrew Zeigler, 320 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Dilman Zeigler, 220 a., 4 h., 6 c.; Henry Lederach, 132 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Jacob Clements, 150 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Christopher Dickensheit, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Frederick Dickensheit, 32 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Nicholas Schwenk, smith, 150 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Daniel Price, 345 a., 4 h., 8 c.; John Johnson, Jr., 2 h., 5 c.; Nicholas Johnson, deceased, estate 150 acres; Gabriel Schuler, Jr., 190 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Rudolph Harley, Jr., 3 h., 6 c.; Andrew Zeigler, Jr., 3 h., 6 c.; John Smith, miller, 1 h., 3 c.; George Schwenk; Frederick Alderfer, miller, 490 a., 3 h., 3 c., and a grist-mill; Peter Freed, 290 a., 1 servant, 3 h., 7 c.; John Freed, 100 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Garret Stouffer, 193 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Jacob Shoemaker, 141 a., 2 h., 1 c., a cripple; Jacob Shoemaker, Jr., 2 c.; Henry Cassel, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Reiff; George Reiff, 200 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 6 c.; Jacob Reiff, Jr., 275 a., 2 negroes, 5 h., 9 c., 30 acres in Towamencin, 8 children; Philip Stong, 178 a., 3 h., 6 c., 11 children; Mathias Stouffer, 80 a., 1 h., 4 c.; Joseph Evans, 2 c.; Christian Moyer, 232 a., 5 h., 7 c.; Christian Stouffer, 38 a., 1 c.; Barnhart Getz, 120 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Jacob Bozart, 120 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Valentine Haake, 1 c.; Samuel Delp, 140 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Christopher Hoffman, 83 a., 2 h., 4 c.; William Yokum, 50 a., 1b., 1 c.; Christopher Krieble, 125 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Andrew Krieble, 106 a., 2 h., 6 c.; George Krieble, 125 a., 2 h., 5 c.; George Heydrick, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Michael Zeigler, 3 h., 4 c.; Garret Clements, 135 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Abraham Alderfer, 1 h., 2 c.; Paul Knaper, 50 a., 1 h., 3 c.; John Conrad, 1 c.; Henry Hopple, 2 c.; Henry Reary, Christian Dull, John Schneider. *Single Men*.—Yilius Kassel, Henry Wierman, Abraham Gergas, Abraham Bergy, William Gergas, Gerhart Clements, John Price, Jacob Harley, Frederick Lichtner, Abraham Krieble, Abraham Grubb and Joseph Alderfer.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

SAMUEL B. BINDER.

In the northern part of Montgomery County there is no one who is at this time doing as much to advance the prosperity and business interests of the people as Samuel B. Binder, the subject of this sketch. Born and reared in Harleysville, in said county, he is in every sense one of the county's most enterprising young business man. He is never content unless he sees men and women busy in his employ, and without him Harleysville would be dull indeed. His father, John W. Binder, was born in

Württemberg, Germany, April 18, 1819. Arrived at a suitable age, he was placed at the hatter's trade, in which he became an efficient workman. He also learned the tailor's trade. His trade in all its details mastered, he commenced the manufacture of hats and traveled over a great deal of Europe in selling his goods. For his first wife he married Miss Magdalena Meier, who bore him one son, Frederick M. B. Binder. She died in Württemberg. His second wife was Miss Christina Bond, who was also born in Württemberg. To them have been born ten children, four only reaching man's and woman's estate, viz.: Jacob B., John B. (now deceased), Samuel B., and Sallie B. Jacob B. married Lizzie Frederick, who has born him three children. He is a carriage-builder and carries on business in Harleysville. Sallie B. married Jacob Moyer, a carriage-painter, now in the employ of his brother-in-law, Jacob B. Binder. In 1846, John W. and his family emigrated to America and settled down at the corner of Sixth and Brown Streets, in Philadelphia. He had but little of this world's goods, but he possessed what was of more account, viz.: honesty, energy and industrious habits. He found employment with Solomon Gans, one of the oldest ready-made clothing merchants in the city; also with the Schloss Brothers. He moved with his family to Towamencin township, in Montgomery County, where he rented a small farm and in a small way commenced truck-farming. He had but small means, and his start was with one cow, one horse and other things in like proportions. His marketing was done under grave difficulties, as he could neither understand nor talk English. He learned the name and price of what he had to sell by standing around the market and hearing what others said. He would bring a basket, and in it take back to his home unmade garments, part of which he would make, the rest put out among his neighbors, and in this humble way was started a business which has grown in magnitude until it gives employment to hundreds of people and requires the use of many thousands of dollars annually. His start was made in the days of State banks, and to avoid getting bad money he marked each bill so that he knew of whom it was obtained. He kept increasing his business and gave out the goods all through the northern part of Montgomery and part of Bucks Counties.

During the war he had large contracts for making soldiers' clothing, and he also dealt largely in sewing-machines, which he sold by the car-load. His first purchase of real estate was a brick house and small piece of land near Harleysville, where he carried on the manufacture of clothing. He next bought a farm, on which he built a dwelling-house and a large store, and then carried on farming as well as manufacturing. Mr. Binder's first book-keeper and manager was Albert Bromer, now an extensive manufacturer of clothing at Swensville, Pa. Soon after the war he bought of Mr. Freed a farm of

nearly one hundred acres, on which he built the large establishment in Harleysville, in which he carried on, in a still more extended way, his business. He soon after took in as partner Frederick Beck and John G. Egolf, the firm becoming known as Binder, Beck & Egolf. After this he moved to Philadelphia, but still continued in the firm. After a time he dissolved partnership with Messrs. Beck and Egolf, and carried on the business with the assistance of Wm. Olaboch, of Sumneytown. Becoming weary of work, he turned the business over to his son, F. M. B. Binder, who carried it

city in wagons. But his work becoming too great and too much extended for teaming to be practicable, he ships to different points on the line of the railroad, from whence they are taken by his teams and distributed among the hundreds of people who find employment through his energy and splendid business tact. The unmade garments are taken from the wholesale clothiers in the city by Mr. Binder, and made up under his instructions by the country people, who from far and near are glad of this means of making an honest dollar. He also has sub-agents, who



Sam. B. Binder.

on for several years, then failed, after which for a year or more the establishment in Harleysville remained idle. In 1873, Mr. Binder, having returned to Harleysville, commenced business on a small scale, but soon became disgusted with it and sold out to his youngest son, Samuel B. Binder, who was born in Harleysville on the 18th day of April, A.D. 1853. Thus Samuel B., in the twentieth year of his age, in the midst of the hard times caused by the panic of 1873, commenced in a small way the manufacture of ready-made clothing and dealing in sewing-machines. In the start the goods were hauled to and from the

have work done in Coopersburg, East Greenville and other places. Mr. Binder has an office at Philadelphia, where he manages and directs his increasing and now large business. He will, in the spring of 1885, move his family to North Wales, which will make his connection with his city office easier to keep up and still be in the midst of his work. In politics Mr. Binder is, as are his father and brothers, an ardent Republican, and while he is not and has never been an aspirant for office, he still takes an active interest in and is an efficient worker of his party. He was married, September 14, 1878,

to Miss Carrie Hartzell, daughter of Josiah and Barbara (Benner) Hartzell. She was born in Telford, Bucks Co., Pa., on the 7th day of October, 1860. They have two children,—Ella H. and an infant son.

CHAPTER LXII.

MARLBOROUGH TOWNSHIP.

THE township of Marlborough is bounded on the northeast by Bucks County, south and east by Upper Salford, southwest by Frederick and the borough of Green Lane and northwest by Upper Hanover. Its greatest length is five miles, and greatest width three miles, with an area of one hundred and fifty square miles, or eight thousand five hundred acres, having been reduced, in 1875, about one hundred and fifty-four acres by the incorporation of Green Lane. The surface is rolling and the soil red shale. A rocky elevation commences near Sumneytown, between the East Swamp and Ridge Valley Creeks, and extends north-eastwards into Bucks County. The Perkiomen flows along its southwest boundary, and East Swamp Creek through its eastern portion. The latter stream empties into Ridge Valley Creek at Sumneytown, and has been celebrated for its powder and oil-mills, which, in 1849, were twelve in number, one-half being powder-mills.

The township is drained by the Perkiomen, East Swamp, Ridge Valley and Macoby Creeks.

Its name is supposed to have been in honor of the Duke of Marlborough, whose military exploits gave him a wide celebrity about the year 1706, and who died 1722. The formation of the township appears to have taken place about 1745. The earliest settlement known within its limits was that of Thomas Mayberry, who purchased a tract of land, in 1730, containing twelve hundred and forty acres, on which he subsequently erected a forge near where the present borough of Green Lane is situated. This forge was in operation for some years prior to 1747.

In the year 1785, Andrew Reed was appointed assessor, with Henry Snyder and Mathias Scheifly as assistants, to levy a tax under the following directions :

“MONTGOMERY COUNTY, August 15, 1785.

“The quota required of Marlborough township is Ninety-five pounds, Fourteen shillings and fivepence, which quota is to be raised by an equal assessment on the estates, real and personal, and on single Freemen, according to an act of General Assembly, passed in Philadelphia, the 16th day of March, 1885, for furnishing the quota of this State towards paying the annual interest on the debt of the United States, and for funding and paying the interest on the public debts of this State for said year.”

Taxables.—Nicholas Koons, 100 acres; Joseph Himmelright, 2 horses and 2 cows; Jacob Stahl, 180 acres; Andrew Werner, 20 acres; Jacob Young, 40 acres; Thomas Mayberry, 400 acres, 55 acres of rock land, 14 horses, 6 cows (this was doubtless the old forge property and the first purchaser above referred to); Andrew Reed, 150 acres, 414 acres of rock land, 10 horses and 7 cows, 1 tan-yard, 1 saw-mill; Henry

Kneip, 100 acres and dwelling; Ludwig Harsh, 102 acres; Sebastian Gates, 115 acres, 1 grist-mill, 1 oil-mill, 1 servant; Antony Sell, 125 acres; Jacob Long, 196 acres; Adam Bosert, 150 acres; Matthias Walters, 170 acres; Andrew Young, 150 acres; John Shelly, 182 acres; John Bachman, 70 acres; George McReiter, 70 acres; Adam Mangole, 87 acres; John Swiseforte, 50 acres; John Barnet, 81 acres; Balser Reed, 105 acres; Philip Koons, 113 acres; Adam Henry, 132½ acres; George Rote, 281 acres; Nicholas Miller, 214 acres, 126 acres of rock land; Daniel Kryder, 62 acres, 1 small hammer, 1 hemp-mill; Jacob Dost, 110 acres; Christian Schair, 100 acres; Matthias Scheifeley, 131 acres, 100 acres of rock land, 3 horses, 5 cows, 1 negro girl, 1 servant; Nicholas Eidemiller, 28 acres and dwelling; John Schuler, 150 acres; Conrad Zimmerman, 231 acres; Martin Kawler, 105 acres.

The following single men were assessed: Charles Zolly, Samuel Cooper, Gabriel Schuler, Abraham Zimmerman, Peter Zimmerman, Abraham Kaufman, George Yost, Martin Wedkneicht, Martin Stroin, Henry Ewald, Peter Zeller, Frederick Heist, John Bishop, Peter Long, John Kryder, Jacob Shaffer, Joseph Nice. These seventeen single men were assessed to pay in the aggregate £11 13s. 6d. There were 123 taxables returned by the assessors for 1785; for 1828, 197; for 1858, 329; and for 1884, 336. The population in 1800 was 645; in 1830, 952; in 1850, 1174; in 1870, 1,303; 1880, 1,212. Value of taxable property, 1884, was \$391,820.

The Sumneytown and Spring House Turnpike Company was incorporated 1845, and opened their road for public travel in 1848, through this township. The Perkiomen turnpike passes through the southwestern portion from Perkiomenville to Green Lane. The Green Lane and Goshenhoppen, and the Sumneytown and Gerysville turnpikes also pass through a portion of the township. The early forges, powder-mills and oil-mills erected on the Perkiomen and tributaries, and the great amount of hauling necessary in conducting them, induced the people to construct hard roads, and the several turnpike companies were encouraged to locate and build their highways through Marlborough by liberal subscriptions of stock among the business men within its limits.

There are three villages in the township,—Sumneytown, Hoppenvillē and Marlboroughville. The largest is Sumneytown, long known as the largest village in the northwestern part of the county, situated on the north side of East Swamp Creek, a mile and a half above its junction with the Perkiomen, and about half a mile southeast of the borough of Green Lane. This is an early settlement, and Nicholas Scull, in 1758, mentions Dorn's inn as located here at the forks of the road. The place received its name from Isaac Sumney,¹ who, in August, 1763, purchased

¹ “Sumneytown was named after Isaac Sumney, who, on August 24, 1763, purchased one hundred and thirty acres of land in Marlborough township, which included part of the present site of the village. Mr.

one hundred and thirty acres of land, and shortly after kept for some time a tavern, and probably succeeded Dorn in the business. The building he occupied is supposed to be still standing, and forms a part of the present hotel. It is said that he also erected several other buildings. The earliest mention we have found of "Sumneytown," is on Howell's large map of 1792, on which it is thus called. An act was passed January 19, 1802, that the townships of Upper Hanover, Marlborough, Upper Salford and Franconia, constituting the Eighth District, shall hold their general elections at the house of John Scheid, at this place. We cannot say at what exact time the post-office was established here, but it was previous to 1827. Gordon, in his "Gazetteer of 1832," mentions that it contains one tavern, two stores and twelve dwellings; and Day, in his "Historical Collections of Pennsylvania," speaks of it as being fifteen miles north of Norristown, with from thirty to forty houses. If the latter statement is correct, it must have grown very little, for in 1870 it is stated to have contained thirty-five houses, one grist-mill, one sugar-factory and several stores and mechanic shops. In April, 1827, Samuel Royer published here *Der Advocat*, the first German weekly paper in the county; this was succeeded, August 6, 1828, by the *Bauern Freund*, which was successfully continued till July, 1858, when the proprietor, Enos Benner, sold out, and it was removed to Pennsburg.

Sumneytown was for a long period a centre of powder and linseed oil manufacture. The first powder-mill in this section was erected by Jacob Dast, on East Swamp Creek about 1780, who continued the business till his death, in 1790. About two years after it was sold to Lorentz Jacoby, who erected additional mills. This business flourished, so that in 1858 eleven mills were in full operation in this township alone, making twenty tons of powder daily. At the same time seven oil-mills were carried on, by which it may be judged that considerable flax must have been raised in this vicinity. The manufacture of powder and linseed oil has since greatly declined, and of course affecting the capital and labor employed therein.

During the period referred to, when the industries of Marlborough were in full blast, some of the finest horse and mule-teams of the State were in use in transporting their commodities to market. Philip Super, Esq., in his "Pen Pictures of the Perkiomen Valley," says,—

"Sumneytown was for a long time the centre of the powder and linseed oil business of the Perkiomen and its tributaries, the Macoby and Swamp Creeks,—and its name became known all over that part of the State, where

Sumney had been a land-owner in the township for twenty-four years previous to that time, and had most likely been a resident of the village before the time of this purchase. Mr. Sumney opened the first tavern in the village some time before the Revolution in the old frame building in the forks of the Maxatawny and Macungie roads, which is still standing and forms part of the present Sumneytown Hotel. He also erected a brewery near the tavern, where he is said to have made most excellent beer."—Super's "Perkiomen Valley."

public improvements were made. At that time splendid teams of four and six horses drawing tons of powder were employed to distribute it for use along the various lines of public works."

Teaming from Marlborough and the head-waters of the Perkiomen Creek came to an end upon the completion of the railroad to Green Lane. Although time has wrought changes in and near this ancient place, in the transfer of its leading features of trade and industry to other centres, its appearance still denotes the usual activities of country life. There are upwards of fifty dwellings, a post-office, two stores, two hotels, blacksmith-shop, tinsmith and saddler-shops, job printer, two cigar manufactories, a powder manufacturer and a number of other tradesmen usually found in a country village.

Hoppenville is located partly in Marlborough and partly in Upper Hanover township. The village is built along the main highway, and consists of farm buildings, with the hotel, store and post-office. This is an old village, and before given its present name, some twenty years ago, was known as "Die Gasse," or "Die Schmaiz Gasse," a free translation of which would be "the Road," or "the Lard Road," the last name having been given it, tradition says, by a person who, carrying a pot of lard on his way home, stopped at the village tavern, and was so overcome by the business-like hospitality of the jolly landlord that he and his lard-pot tarried on the road for the night. The good people of the village have long outlived the questionable habits of the former citizen, who derisively named the place "Lard Road," and concluded to call it Hoppenville, compounded from Goshenhoppen, an old name by which this part of the Perkiomen Valley has long been known. The village contains between twenty and thirty dwellings, a hotel, store and post-office, cigar manufactory, and the usual country tradesmen.

Marlboroughville is situated in the north-eastern part of the township, near the head-waters of the Macoby Creek, on a main road leading from Sumneytown to the Bucks County line, distant about three miles east from the former place. There are upwards of a dozen dwelling-houses, with a hotel, school-house and local industries.

Educational.—The people of this township were among the first to encourage the adoption of the common-school system, provided for by the acts of Assembly of 1834-36. The township, in 1835, accepted the provisions of the law, received the appropriation, levied the school tax, built new school-houses and sought to popularize the movement by all just means. This effort continued until 1842, when the opposition became so marked that the "free schools" so called, were discontinued for 1842, and *subscription* schools substituted. Great dissatisfaction resulted. The teachers that had been employed in the school buildings erected and opened under the new system had not sufficient scholars to support them for the term of four and five months, and it was soon found neces-

sary to return to the system of the common schools, which they did in the following year, 1843, and have enjoyed its advantages ever since. There are five schools in the township, having one hundred and seventy-five pupils enrolled. The length of term is five months. Wages paid to teachers are thirty dollars per month. Male and female teachers are employed, and equal salaries are paid them.

Religious Worship.—The Lutheran and Reformed denominations of the locality are united in their place of worship, and have a large and beautifully situated church, located quite near the village of Sumneytown. The church is built on a high piece of ground, overlooking the surrounding country, and is a prominent landmark in the township. The edifice was built in 1858, and dedicated in the month of June, 1859, having seating capacity for seven hundred persons. It has a steeple and belfry, with a seven hundred pound bell to call together its worshipers and toll for the sorrowing, who there bury their dead, and whose tombstones are fast whitening the conspicuous ground upon which they are planted.

The pastors who have officiated here are Revs. H. Wendts, A. G. Struntz, E. F. Fleckenstein, A. L. Dechant and Wm. B. Fox. The land, consisting of three acres, upon which the church buildings stand, and that inclosed for burial purposes, was donated by Daniel Jacoby, of Sumneytown, in 1857. There is a large Sabbath-school connected with the united congregations worshipping in the church.

Mills and Water-Powers.—The Perkiomen Creek marks the western boundary line of this township, and has long afforded excellent water-power for mills of various characters. It is said that the first mills built on the Perkiomen were located within the limits of what is now Marlborough township. "For some years after the first settlements were made in this part of the valley the inhabitants had to take their grain to Edward Farmer's mill, on the Wissahickon Creek, in Whitmarsh township, at that time in Philadelphia County, distant 25 to 30 miles; this journey had to be made with the bag of grain thrown across the horse's back, and as the roads were mere bridle-paths, going to mill could not have been the most pleasant undertaking." The first grist-mill erected by Samuel Shuler in the year 1742, was on the East Swamp Creek, about a mile above Sumneytown. The next mill built was the large stone grist-mill, still standing about half-way between Green Lane and Perkiomenville, which was built by one of the Mayberrys, and now or late of the estate of Jacob Snyder, deceased. This establishment was founded over a hundred years ago.

Prior to 1784, Jacob Nice owned a tract of land on the east side of Perkiomen Creek, on which he had erected a grist and saw-mill. He sold the property, March 30, 1798, to Daniel Smith, who soon after changed the grist and saw-mill into an oil-mill and

powder-mill. On January 23, 1810, he sold to Matthew Campbell, who ran the mills as oil-mills until April 1, 1825, when he sold to George Poley, who, in that year, changed the mills into a fulling and carding-mill, and began the manufacture of satinets, linseys and stocking-yarn. In 1842 he built at the place a large brick fulling-mill, which was operated by him until 1860, when he sold to Henry Bergey, who continued there until the building was destroyed by fire, in 1871. The walls were used in rebuilding, and the building was fitted up as a grist and planing-mill, and is so used at present. The following advertisement, found in the *Norristown Register* of June 18, 1828, shows the nature of the business carried on by this mill at that time:

"George Poley informs the public and his friends that he intends carrying on the woolen manufacturing business in all its branches in Marlboro' township, one mile from Sumneytown, on Perkiomen Creek, next below Brower's mill. Those who will favor him with their custom can have their wool carded into rolls, spun into yarn, made into cloth, flannel, blanketing or sattinetta. All kinds of fulling and coloring done."

Near Green Lane William Schall built a two-story stone grist-mill. It was erected during the time Mr. Schall operated the iron forges, near the village of Green Lane, it being an important adjunct to his manufacturing works at that place. There is a large flour and grist-mill at Perkiomenville; built by Jacob Graff, subsequently purchased by Jacob Johnson, who displaced the old building and erected a large three-story brick building in its stead. This mill is now operated by Mr. John H. Nice. Within a distance of one mile and a half, from Green Lane to Perkiomenville, the Perkiomen Creek turns three grist-mills, two chopping-mills, one planing-mill and one saw-mill. At an earlier period, says Mr. Super, there were in this distance fifteen wheels in operation, turned by the water of the Perkiomen,—viz., forge and furnace three wheels; grist-mills, three wheels; oil-mills, four wheels; plaster-mill, one wheel; powder-mills, two wheels; wool-mill, one wheel; and saw-mill, one wheel. This stream has served a good purpose in the early settlement of the Perkiomen Valley, and the industries which it has supported and still encourages have been a source of considerable trade and freight traffic to the Perkiomen Railroad, which passes up the stream in close proximity to these establishments, having two stations, besides that of Green Lane,—Rahn's and McLean's,—in passing through this township.

Mercantile Appraiser's Return for 1884.—Jesse Artman, butcher; E. S. Brey, flour and feed; D. R. Bowman, flour and feed; Barndt & Cressman, merchandise; Oliver Hendricks, produce; Henry J. Hevener, flour and feed; H. & A. McLean, coal and lime; John H. Nice, flour and feed; John H. Nice, coal; J. S. Rahn, coal and lumber; J. S. Rahn, flour and feed; E. D. Reiter, merchandise; John Weaver, live stock; Jesse Zepp, live stock.

Number of taxables, 336; value of improved lands,



John D. Apple
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\$312,335; value of unimproved lands, \$28,505; value of 205 horses, \$13,625; value of 470 cattle, \$14,275; total value of property taxable for county purposes, \$391,780.

Elections.—By act of Assembly, April 9, 1833, the township of Marlborough was created a separate election district, and the general elections were ordered to be held at the public-house of Jacob Dimmig.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

JOHN D. APPLE.

John D. Apple was born in the city of New York, in 1808. His father and mother came from England, and both died soon after their arrival in America. The son, John D. was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith trade, which apprenticeship he served out, but never followed that occupation. By his own energy he educated himself until he was competent to teach school, after which he located in the upper portion of Montgomery County, where he soon became a prominent citizen. He was elected a justice of the peace in Marlborough township, which office he held for many years. He also followed surveying and conveying, and the drafts and title deeds of a great deal of real estate in that portion of the county are his work, and their fine execution and accuracy attest his proficiency in that business. He was decidedly a self-made man. His reading of standard works and magazines was extensive. He was one of the few American subscribers of *Blackwood's Magazine*, *The Penny Magazine* and other noted British publications.

In 1834 he married Sarah Bitting, a daughter of John Bitting, of New Hanover township, with whom he had five children,—J. Wright, Lewis C., Mary A., Hannah M., and Sallie J. He was for many years the most prominent Democratic politician in the upper end of Montgomery County, and for a long time the intimate and personal friend of the Hon. John B. Sterigere, whose active adherent he was until the latter's death, in 1852.

He took an active interest in the military organizations in his younger days, and was the captain of and commanded the Sumneytown Artillerists, in the Philadelphia riots in 1844.

He was always a student, and although a self-made man, he was at the time of his death, which occurred in 1862, a good Greek, Latin and French scholar, as well as a fine mathematician. He was a large-hearted, popular and useful man.

CHAPTER LXIII.

MONTGOMERY.¹

THIS township is regular in form, being nearly square, and is bounded on the northeast by Bucks County, southwest by Gwynedd, southeast by Horsham, northwest by Hatfield and west by the borough of Lansdale. Its length is about three and a half miles and width three, with an area of seven thousand one hundred and seventy acres. Its surface is elevated and slightly rolling. The soil is composed of loam and red shale, with the rock near the surface, and it consequently is not well adapted to the growth of wheat and corn. It is drained by the Wissahickon, which has its source near Montgomeryville and the west branch of Neshaminy creek. The former stream flows south to the Schuylkill and the latter towards the east, and near the Horsham line propels a grist and saw-mill.

The villages are Montgomeryville and Montgomery Square. There is a post-office at the latter place and another, called Eureka, in the east corner, on the county line, but better known as Pleasantville. The population of the township in 1800 was 546; in 1840 it attained to 1009, and has since gradually decreased to 876 in 1880. What is remarkably strange in connection with this subject, is that its boundaries have not been lessened since its organization, like its neighbors, through borough incorporations, while several railroads are almost contiguous for a distance of nearly four miles, with no less than three stations thereon in this distance. The real estate, for taxable purposes in 1883 was valued at \$713,280, including the personal property \$768,705, with 247 taxables, of whom 137 are reported subject to military duty. The average per head taxable is \$3150, making it the ninth in order of wealth, and thus all but the equal *per capita* of Lower Merion, in which it is \$3212. It contains three public schools, open eight months, with an average attendance of eighty-four scholars for the year ending June 1, 1882, one hundred being the reported number in 1856 in four schools for five months. One hotel and three stores are returned for 1883. The census of 1850 exhibits 163 houses, 179 families and 112 farms. In 1785, it had one inn, one saw-mill and two tanneries. Three churches are within its limits,—the old Montgomery Baptist Church, organized in 1719, a Methodist Episcopal Church and a Catholic Church, built in 1876 on half an acre of ground, near the Lansdale borough line, mention of which is made in the borough. Montgomery has now decidedly the smallest population of any township in the county, the next approaching it being Marlborough, with twelve hundred and twelve inhabitants in 1880.

As a name, Montgomery has been taken from a county in North Wales. It originated from Roger de

¹ By Wm. J. Buck

Montgomery, a Norman knight who, in 1067, was made Earl of Arundel, Sussex and Shrewsbury, and built a castle which was destroyed by the Welsh in 1095, but afterwards rebuilt by Henry III., who granted it the privileges of a borough. From this came the name of this township through its early Welsh settlers, and fully three-quarters of a century later it was applied to our present county. The earliest mention we have found of the name here is in a letter from the Rev. Evan Evans to the Bishop of London, in 1707, wherein he mentions a "Welsh settlement called Montgomery, in the county of Philadelphia, twenty miles distant from the city, where there are considerable numbers of Welsh people." From what has been stated we may justly conclude that it was called by its present name quite early and we know from the records the township was so-called in March, 1717, and may have been thus organized several years before, though the population must have been sparse.

The earliest survey made in the present township was September 3, 1684, by Thomas Fairman, for William Stanley, of two thousand five hundred acres purchased of William Penn. This was conveyed February 25, 1688, to Isaac Jacobs, who sold eleven hundred acres of the same which lay in the vicinity of Montgomeryville, to Alexander Edwards, of Wales. In this neighborhood Thomas Fairman, the surveyor-general, had also taken up a large tract, as well as Job Bates and Thomas Evans, before 1702. Alexander Edwards, Jr., in 1707, became owner of a considerable part of his father's land. David Hugh Griffith, at this date, made a purchase of one hundred acres. John Bartholomew purchased one hundred and fifty acres at the present Montgomery Square in 1716, where he established the first inn and resided until his death in 1756. John Evans and wife settled in or near this township in 1710, and in the following year John James and wife, the ancestors of a numerous family of this name in Bucks County. James Davis arrived from Wales in 1719, and was a useful man in the settlement.

There is extant a list of land-holders and tenants of this township prepared in 1734 by order of John and Thomas Penn, being twenty-eight in number, copied from the original, and now, for the first time, published in full,—Robert Thomas, 200 acres; John Starkey, 200; Joseph Naylor, 189; Joseph Ambler, 90; John Bartholomew, 300; Joseph Eaton, 150; William Williams, 200; William Morgan, 100; Samuel Thomas, 100; John Williams, 100; Joseph Bate, Thomas Bartholomew, 30; Griffith Hugh, 100; John Jones (carpenter), 300; John Roberts, 90; Garret Peters, 150; Rowland Roberts, 100; Francis Daws, Thomas Williams, 100; William Storey, 100; Richard Lewis, 150; Isaac Jones, 100; John Roberts, 200; James Davis, 100; David Evans, 100; Isaac James, 200; Jenkin Evans, 50; and Jenkin Jones.

The Bartholomew family represent themselves of

Hugenot origin, and descended from the celebrated Barthelemi family of France, and that they came hither from England. John Bartholomew, the settler here, who died October 30, 1756, aged seventy-one years, had eleven children. The sons were Joseph, Thomas, John, Andrew, Benjamin, Augustine and Edward. Annie married Thomas Walters; Elizabeth, Isaac Davis; Rachel, Benjamin Davis; and Mary, ——— Thomas. The widow, Mary Bartholomew, died about 1762. John Bartholomew, Jr., died January 17, 1758, aged thirty-nine years. Edward is assessed here in 1776 for one hundred acres, two negroes, four horses and three cattle. George Bartholomew and wife, Jane, who owned and kept the Blue Anchor inn, in Philadelphia, 1683, it is supposed was related to this Montgomery family.

Joseph Bate or Bates may have been a son of Job Bates, and he was probably a tenant, who died September 24, 1741, aged sixty-nine years. His tract lay to the west of the Baptist Church, adjoining the Hatfield line, and was purchased from the executors by Humphrey Bates in 1749, from whom it descended to his daughter Sarah, the wife of John Pugh, who sold it, in 1792 to John Harman, who had been also a resident and land-holder of the township for some time previous. We find here also in 1776, Thomas Bates with one hundred and fifty acres. Isaac James was the son of John, the early settler, and survived until July 14, 1791, having attained the great age of ninety-one years. His brothers, Thomas and William, moved into New Britain, where they became extensive land-holders. In 1776, as may be noticed, he still retained his two hundred acres.

Joseph Ambler was a Friend, and in 1776 we find him still living and taxed here for two hundred acres, Joseph Ambler, Jr., one hundred and ninety, and John Ambler one hundred and seventy-five acres. In 1794 there were five taxables here of this surname. Descendants of the family still hold land here. David Evans died September 18, 1763, aged seventy-three years, and Mathusela Evans in 1779, aged eighty-three years. Dr. Peter Evans in 1776 is taxed for two hundred acres, two negroes, four horses and eight cattle; Jenkin Evans, one hundred acres; and Walter Evans is mentioned as a single man. John Roberts, Jr., in 1776, is taxed for one hundred and fifty acres; he was subsequently long a justice of the peace. John Morris, while engaged in clearing land in this township in the spring of 1731, was approached unexpectedly by his wife who was struck by a branch of a falling tree, which caused her death in a few hours. Among those who held township offices here may be mentioned Humphrey Bate, supervisor, and Henry McGowen, constable in 1767; Samuel Hines, supervisor, 1773; Henry Johnson, constable, 1774; Evan Jones, assessor, and Ezekiel Shoemaker, collector, 1776; and Jacob Kneidler and John Gordon, supervisors, 1810.

Respecting the nationality of the early settlers, the documents before us, give much information of an

interesting character. Of the twenty-eight names in the list of 1734, three-fourths denote a Welsh origin and probably not one a German. In the assessment of 1776 we find the following names which we take to be German: John Weber or Weaver, Mary Weber, George Doraker, John Drake, Benjamin Drake, John Hartle, Ezekiel Shoemaker, Andrew Cramer, John Ramberger, William Fry, John Harman, David Bruner, Felix Worsinger and George Geary,—nearly one-fourth of the entire number. According to a late township map, they now comprise about half the land-holders. According to a well-known tradition, the early Welsh settlers, sought out the lands in Gwynedd and Montgomery in preference to those in the townships below, because they were not so densely timbered, and would therefore in clearing require much less labor, not imagining its lesser productiveness.

The earliest road laid out in this section was no doubt that beginning at Theophilus Williams' plantation, on the banks of the Neshaminy Creek, near the present Line Lexington, and passing through the full length of the township down to John Humphrey's bridge, above the Spring House, in 1717, being the present Bethlehem road. To this same bridge a road had been laid out six years previously, down to the Pennypack Creek, at the present Huntingdon Valley, forming the line between Gwynedd and Horsham, and almost touching the southern corner of the township. From the people of this section going so much to mill there for flour at this early time it received the name of Welsh road, which it still retains. A road was laid out in 1731 from David's Corner, on the Bucks County line, to the present Montgomery Square, commencing at Buckingham Meeting-house. This was the old Swedes' Ford or present State road, widened in 1830 to forty feet. David's Corner very likely received its name from James David or Davis, who is mentioned in the list of 1734. The Horsham road was laid out from John Bartholomew's to Peter Lukens', near Horsham Meeting-house, in 1735. The same year the Bethlehem road was resurveyed from the Spring House, and extended up to Peter Trexler's, in the present Lehigh County. The County Line road was extended up from Horsham to Line Lexington in 1752. The Spring House and Hilltown turnpike was constructed on the Bethlehem road in 1814, terminating three miles above Line Lexington. In its day this was an important work, and drew to the road an immense amount of travel down to the general introduction of railroads.

The Revolution did not pass away without some excitement attending it, even in this small township. General McDougal was encamped with his command, for a brief period, near the present Montgomeryville a short time before the battle of Germantown. A raid was made by some British mercenaries on the property of Jacob Reed and Isaac Wisler, in the

neighboring township of Hatfield, for which they were afterwards allowed seventy pounds for damages. But the capture at or near Montgomery Square of a drove of one hundred and thirty cattle, collected in New York and the Eastern States, and then on the way to our starving soldiers at Valley Forge, by a detachment of British troops from Philadelphia, on the morning of February 24, 1778, was a pretty serious matter at the time, one which Washington, in his correspondence, greatly deplored, though kept very quiet. It is presumed that as soon as the cattle had crossed the Delaware River and their destination was ascertained, spies informed the British; hence their sudden dash out here and return in safety with their prize and several prisoners to the city. From an advertisement of December 10, 1778, we ascertain that Hugh Evans, of this township, offered a reward of thirty dollars for the arrest of an English deserter calling himself William Newton, who had been in his employ, as a journeyman shoemaker, four days, and leaving had stolen a watch and a lot of clothing from the premises.

Montgomeryville is the largest village in the township, containing one store, one hotel and twenty-seven houses. It has a high location, and from the upper portion on the turnpike a fine view is offered, looking in a northern direction. Gordon, in his "Gazetteer," mentions this place in 1832 as containing ten houses, two taverns and two stores. A post-office was established here in 1851, which was removed, in the fall of 1869, to Montgomery Square. Nicholas Scull, on his map of 1759, denotes the road leading from here to Butler's mill, now Whitehallville. The hotel was opened here, soon after the completion of the turnpike, by Charles Humphreys, who was succeeded by Thomas Lunn and John Hough. Henry Slight, a noted stage-driver over the turnpike, purchased it in 1822 and kept it for some time. Francis Kile, who was elected sheriff of the county in the fall of 1860, afterwards became its proprietor.

Montgomery Square contains seven or eight houses, two stores, post-office, and a wheelwright and blacksmith-shop. The post-office has been a movable one, having been originally established here before 1827 and after an interval was removed about three-fourths of a mile to Montgomeryville, and in 1869 again brought back to its present place. The Methodist Episcopal Church at the place was built of stone, in 1842, on a lot of ground containing two acres, which is also used for burial purposes. It is situated on the west side of the turnpike. The first mention of regular pastors is found in 1856. The appointee in that year was the Rev. J. Carlisle. The pastors from that time are as follows: Levi B. Hughes, J. N. King, George D. Miles, Samuel T. Kemble, J. Brandeth, N. B. Durell, J. C. Gregg, D. W. Gordon, J. S. Taft, L. Dobson, H. F. Isett, Philip P. Reese, H. U. Sebring, J. W. Bradley, J. Bawdin, O. E. Stogden and G. E. Kleinhenn. Gordon mentions here, in 1832, a "post-

office, four dwellings, one store, two taverns and a boarding-school for boys, in which the classics are taught." This place in the long past has been famous for its inns, but with the great diminution of travel they, several years since, ceased business; yet a few facts concerning their history survive. At this point there was an intersection of two important roads in 1735 and, no doubt, not a great while after this date an inn was established here. John Bartholomew kept one here before his death, in 1756, which his widow, Mary Bartholomew, sold, with one hundred and fifty acres, in 1760, to Blaize Weaver, who we know in 1774 had a license for the same. About this time he died, and was succeeded by his widow, Mary Weaver, who kept it through the Revolutionary war, and in 1785, sold it to her son, George Weaver, who continued the stand for perhaps half a century. At this house books were opened, in 1805-6, to receive subscriptions for stock for making the turnpike. The post-office here was called Montgomery. John Weaver was postmaster in 1819 and Henry Slight in 1830. Theophilus Shannon was licensed to keep an inn here on the opposite corner in 1774, and we find him taxed in 1776 for two negroes. William Collum, an accomplished scholar, who resided at this place and taught school from 1805 to 1819, if not longer, calculated the almanacs printed by Asher Miner, at Doylestown. John Selser, residing in the vicinity, aged upwards of ninety, was one of his pupils. A flourishing debating society was maintained here during this period.

There is in the lower part of Montgomery Square, on the east side of the pike, a two-story stone school-house, with a dwelling attached, (which was enlarged in 1876), that possesses an interest. The late Benjamin F. Hancock, Esq., of Norristown, kept school in it during his married life with Elizabeth, daughter of Edward and Mary Hoxworth, of Hatfield township, and while residing in the dwelling part his twin-sons, Winfield Scott and Hilary, were born February 14, 1824, the former being now Major-General Hancock, of the United States army, and late Democratic candidate for the Presidency. In the spring of the following year the father removed from here to Norristown, where he soon after entered on the study of the law, to which he was admitted to practice in September, 1828. In the list of 1734, Arnold Hancock is taxed for one hundred acres in Perkiomen township, and William Hancock, in Moreland, for a house and lot of one acre. Among the pupils attending here were Samuel Medary, a native of the vicinity, afterwards Governor of Ohio, and Samuel Aaron, subsequently of Norristown.

The Montgomery Baptist Church.—This church is situated on the west side of the Bethlehem turnpike, but little over half a mile above Montgomeryville, and nearly the same distance south of Colmar Station, on the Doylestown Branch of the North Pennsylvania Railroad. In order of time, it

was the fourth church built by the Baptists in Pennsylvania, and the first in the county. For its origin we have to go back to 1710, when John Evans and wife, and the next year John James and wife, all members of Baptist Churches in Wales, arrived and settled in the township. Abel Morgan, the minister of Pennypack Church, near the present Holmesburg, in 1712, began to visit them, and in 1718 baptized William James, Thomas James, Josiah James, James Lewis and David Williams. James David, or Davis, arrived in 1719, which increased their number to ten, who, on the 20th of June of this year, constituted themselves into an organization. Several more emigrants having arrived in 1720 from Wales, and joining them, induced them now to build a log meeting-house on a lot of one acre, donated for this purpose by John Evans. This rude structure was torn down in 1731 and a stone edifice erected, twenty-four by forty-two feet, with a gallery.

The first pastor of the church was Benjamin Griffith, who was born, October 16, 1688, in Cardigan, Wales; came to this country in 1710; settled at Montgomery in 1720; called to the ministry in 1722, and was ordained October 23, 1725, continued faithfully in his charge till his death, which took place October 4, 1768, in his eightieth year, and forty-sixth in the ministry. He was buried here in the graveyard, where a stone, duly inscribed, has been erected to his memory. He was tendered the office of justice of the peace, which he declined to accept. He had a literary turn, and is the author of several pamphlets on the doctrines of his faith. The successor of Mr. Griffith was the Rev. John Thomas, who had been for several years his assistant, a son of Rev. William Thomas, founder of the Hilltown Church. He was a native of Radnor, Chester Co.; was called to the ministry here in 1749; and ordained in 1751. He married Sarah James, by whom he had four daughters. Both Mr. Griffith and Thomas preached here in English and Welsh, as best suited their hearers. The latter having resigned, the church was supplied for some time by Abel Griffith, David Loofborough and Joshua Jones. The latter had come from Wales, and was stationed at the New Britain Church.

The Rev. Abel Morgan, in his history, describes the Montgomery Church in 1770 as possessing "a stove and two fire-places," and on the lot of ground "convenient stables" had been erected "and a school-house." Two branches had now sprung from it,—first, the "Perquese" or Hilltown Church, erected in 1737, and the New Britain Church, erected in 1754, and only four miles distant. Through a religious dispute, the New Britain congregation seceded and formed a separate organization, followed by the Hilltown Church, November 10, 1781, the latter brought about in part by political feelings engendered by the war. The result was that the membership of the Montgomery Church from ninety, in 1762, diminished to twenty-eight, in 1788 but by 1800 had

increased to fifty-seven, and now it is over two hundred, thus requiring some time before it fully recovered from so severe a shock.

This church was incorporated by an act of the Legislature passed September 26, 1783, the trustees being the pastor, Rev. David Loofborough, Isaac James, Peter Evans, Jenken Evans and George Smith. The Rev. Joshua Jones, after serving the church eight years, died December 26, 1802, aged eighty-two years. Silas Hough, M.D., was the fifth minister, and attended to the duties of his position, as well as those of a physician, for about eighteen years. During a period of Mr. Hough's illness the church was partially supplied by the Rev. Joseph Mathias, of Hilltown, Samuel Smith and Henry Nightingale. Thomas P. Robinson, after a six years' pastorate, died May 27, 1838. Rev. William M. Mathews, of England, filled the station for about nine years, and was succeeded, May 1, 1850, by Rev. George Higgins; who maintained this relation until his death, March 9, 1869. During his ministry of nineteen years here he did much to recover and strengthen the congregation, baptizing one hundred and ninety-two persons. His successor was the present pastor, Rev. N. B. Baldwin, formerly of Philadelphia, who resides near by on a farm.

Besides the lot of ground mentioned, the church has also in possession about thirty acres, with a dwelling-house erected thereon and some other buildings. Dr. John N. Thomas left by will for the benefit of the society the sum of fifteen hundred dollars. In 1816 the second church was taken down, and in its place another erected of stone, fifty by fifty-five feet, also with a gallery. In the summer of 1883 the edifice was remodeled and somewhat enlarged, its exterior neatly plastered, pointed arched windows, and a slate roof being introduced, and the interior improved, at a cost of four thousand dollars. Its surroundings are shady and attractive, with ample shedding for horses and wagons. The graveyard extends over several acres, is neatly kept, and, as may be well expected after being used over one hundred and sixty years for this purpose, contains numerous interments. It is not likely that they will soon be restricted here in space, for the entire tract contains eight or ten acres.

In September, 1883, the writer spent several hours in this graveyard examining the various inscriptions. The earliest stone found has on it "M. P., 1719," the next that of "Walter Evans, who died Jan. 17, 1729, aged 6 years," then "I. D., 1739, 14," followed by one of 1740 and another of 1741. Four pastors of the church are buried here,—namely, Benjamin Griffith, Joshua Jones, Silas Hough and George Higgins. Mr. Hough died May 14, 1822, aged fifty-eight years. Two deacons have attained to a goodly age,—Joseph Lunn, who died May 31, 1847, in his ninety-first year, and Amos Griffiths, November 17, 1863, aged nearly ninety-three years. The following family names are

copied from the tombstones, and are inserted here for the benefit of genealogists who may desire to secure additional information in this direction: King, Reiner, Pennington, Trewig, Vansant, Cadwallader, Collum, Griffith, Jenkins, Stratton, Cozens, Walker, Sutch, Hough, Lunn, Drake, Vanneman, Heaton, Otter, Evans, Morgan, Broug, Detweiler, Harrar, Rhoades, Harris, Hood, Gulick, Stagner, Halderman, Hoxworth, Mallet, Leech, Kile, Mathias, Streper, Rockafellow, Stewart, Bates, Whitcom, Lowry, Stuckert, Gordon, Slight, Barthe, Sellers, Haas, Davis, Swallow, Kenderdine, Bartlett, Evans, Huggett, Higgins, Hartman, Pearson, Ewing, Knight, Swank, Hartel, Rentz, Davison, Young, Wright, Sims, Roberts, Solliday, Fry, Yothers, Todd, Hoffman, Bush, Boyd, Hughs, Wanklin, Reaver, Banes, Lukens, Milligan, Yocum, Stagner, Medary, Bartleson, Beam, Guy, Brady, Howell, Rosenberger, Dunn, Owen, Humphrey, Bryan and Rees. Over one-third of these can now be safely set down as of German origin. Among the notable occurrences, we learn from the journal of the Rev. George Whitefield that he came here from the Neshaminy Church April 24, 1740, and "was hospitably entertained."

NOTE.—The Rev. Joseph Mathias, of Hilltown, who died March 11, 1851, aged nearly seventy-three, and in the ministry over forty-four years, was long an assiduous collector of materials for a history of the Baptist Churches of the surrounding section. Through the kindness of his son, the late John N. Mathias, of Carversville, his manuscripts were loaned us in 1857, and from them we made copious extracts, a portion of which are incorporated in the above sketch. We must also acknowledge some aid from Edward Mathews' article on this church published in the *North Wales Record* of April 6, 1868.

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT, 1776.

Evans Jones, assessor, and Ezekiel Shoemaker, collector.

Peter Evans, doctor, 200 acres, 2 negroes, 4 horses, 8 cattle; George Smith, 175 a., 2 negroes, 3 h., 4 c.; Mathias Hines, 1 servant, 4 h., 6 c.; John Ambler, 8 children, 175 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Samuel Thomas, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; George Borland, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Mary Weber, 150 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Weber, 2 h., 3 c.; Theophilus Shannon, 2 negroes, 1 h., 1 c.; George Donaker, 1 h.; Joseph Butler, 3 h., 6 c.; Eldad Roberts, bedridden; John Drake, 60 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Philip March; Benjamin Drake, 1 h., 2 c.; Isaac James, 200 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Charles Humphreys, 90 a., 3 h., 5 c.; John Gill, 2 h., 4 c.; Jacob Humphreys, 30 a.; Edward Bartholomew, 100 a., 2 negroes, 4 h., 3 c.; Jenken Evans, 100 a., 4 c.; John Hartle, potter, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Edward Morgan, 1 h., 2 c.; Joseph Ambler, Sr., 200 a., 1 h.; Ezekiel Shoemaker, 3 h., 5 c.; Jacob Stoneburner, 1 h., 1 c.; Peter Martin, 130 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Joseph Ambler, Jr., 190 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Joseph Roberts, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Thomas, 150 a., 4 h., 5 c.; George Gordon, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Joshua Jones, 189 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Cadwallader Roberts, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c., saw-mill; Henry Stillfield, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Samuel Hines, 3 h., 4 c.; John Hickman, 8 children, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; John Harry, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Andrew Cramer, 1 h., 3 c.; John Roberts, Jr., 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Daniel Jones, 6 children, 288 a., 2 h., 7 c.; Isaac Jones, 200 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Henry Johnson, 100 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Henry Bartle, 2 h., 3 c.; Christopher Wells, 7 children, 2 h., 3 c.; John Ramberger, 50 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Humphrey Bates, 110 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Thomas Bates, 150 a., 3 h., 5 c.; William Fry, 50 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Harman, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; David Bruner, 7 children, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Jones, weaver, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Felix Worsinger, 3 h., 5 c.; George Geary, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Nicholas Charles, 1 c.; Mordecai Moore, 170 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Mary Dickinson, single, 40 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Jacob Johnson, 1 c.; Richard Davis, 40 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Robert Gordon, 70 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Samuel Dunlap, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; William Rea, 40 a., 1 h., 2 c. *Single Men.*—Richard Moore, Isaac Jones, Walter Evans, Joseph Davis, Enoch Beam, Robert Parker, Edward Pennington, Mordecai Roberts, James Shields, Alexander Scott, Theophilus Williams, John Kidney.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

CHARLES TODD JENKINS.

John Jenkins, the great-grandfather of Charles Todd, was a native of Wales, came to America and settled on the plantation now covered by the borough of Lansdale, Montgomery Co., Pa. He had a son, John, who inherited the landed estate, and reared sons,—Edward, Levi and John, the father of Charles Todd Jenkins, who was born April 13, 1812, on the lot now owned by Heebner & Sons, in the town of

Philadelphia market, which he continued for thirty-nine years. In the mean time the North Pennsylvania Railroad was built and a station located at Colmar, near his farm, where he established a depot for coal, flour and feed, which he carried on for fourteen years, when he retired from the produce, coal and feed business, and now devotes his time to the tilling of his beautifully-located and very productive farm of one hundred and eighty-nine acres, half a mile from Colmar Station, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad.

Mr. Jenkins has always been one of the wide-awake, progressive men of the age, assisting with his time



C. Todd Jenkins

Lansdale. The early years of Charles Todd were spent upon the farm of his father, performing such work upon the farm as was usual for boys during the summer seasons and attending school in winter. His father being possessed of a good common-school education, assisted Charles in his studies, thereby keeping him in advance of his class, and at the age of eighteen years he commenced teaching school, and taught three winter terms, and afterwards for three full years in succession.

In the spring of 1840 he engaged in farming, butchering and dealing in country produce for the

and means every progressive movement, and especially in educational matters, knowing full well the value of knowledge derived from books. He has served as school director and auditor of the township in which he lives, and has been president of the Line Lexington Mutual Fire Insurance Company for twelve years, and one of the managers of the company for a much longer period. He has also been one of the managers of the Spring House and Hilltown Turnpike Company for twenty-five years, and its treasurer for eighteen years.

He was married, March 26, 1840, to Miss Sarah,

daughter of George and Esther Lukens, of Towamencin township.

They are the parents of children as follows:

I. George L., born May 11, 1841, married Josephine Stout, of Philadelphia. He now resides in Germantown, and is chief clerk in Bergen & Sons' glass-works, Philadelphia. They have four children,—Earl Wheeler, Laura, Maude Marian and G. Chapin.

II. Anna, born April 1, 1843, died when sixteen months of age.

III. Ella, born January 19, 1845, married Oliver M. Evans, of Lansdale, where Mr. Evans is the teller in

VIII. Valeria, born April 7, 1853, married George Chapin, of Philadelphia. They have one child, Edith.

REV. NORMAN BRISTOL BALDWIN.

In the ancestral line between Rev. Norman B. Baldwin and the progenitor of that name in this country, was Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D.D., who was born December 23, 1753, in Bozrah, Conn. The early life of Thomas developed a desire for books, and, as an indication of the regard in which he was held



N. B. Baldwin

the Lansdale National Bank. Their children are Jane, Eveline and Oliver Morris.

IV. Comly L., born March 13, 1846, now engaged in the freight department of the Lake Shore Railroad.

V. Parker, born June 15, 1847, married Miss Catharine Dungan, of Colmar Station.

VI. Naomi, born January 1, 1849, died at the age of sixteen months and twenty-eight days.

VII. John P. Hale, born January 13, 1851, married Miss Ella Sleight, of Montgomeryville, and is now one of the prominent lawyers of Norristown. Their children are Leila and Helen.

by his fellow-townsmen, it may be stated that when a young man he was chosen to represent the village of Canaan, N. H., to which he had removed, in the Legislature of the State. But the Master had another work for him to do, and in 1780 he was brought to see his condition as a sinner, and to accept Christ as his personal Lord and Redeemer. He then decided to spend his life in the work of winning souls to Christ, and in due time he was set apart to the work of the ministry, and for seven years performed the duties of pastor of the Baptist Church in Canaan. His next field was the Baldwin Place Church, now the Warren Avenue Church, Boston, Mass. During his life he

filled many highly important positions, and on the night of August 29, 1826, entered into rest.

Rev. N. B. Baldwin, a lineal descendant of Thomas Baldwin through the paternal branch of the family, was born in New Milford, Litchfield Co., Conn., August 23, 1824. His father, Rev. Daniel Baldwin, was an esteemed and highly useful Baptist minister. Norman was educated at Hamilton Literary and Theological Institute, now Madison University, from which he graduated in 1846. It is proper to state in this connection that he was a classmate with Rev. George C. Baldwin, D.D., who graduated in 1844, and in the same year accepted the call of the First Baptist Church in Troy, N. Y., where he has, from that time to the present, been a successful and highly-honored pastor.

In October, 1846, Norman B. Baldwin became pastor of the Baptist Church at Monticello, Sullivan Co., N. Y. After a most prosperous service he accepted the unanimous call of the Bethesda Baptist Church, New York City, June 1, 1849, in which God greatly blessed him; but disease compelled him to leave New York, and he accepted the call of the Second Southwark (now Calvary) Baptist Church, Philadelphia, and entered on his labors February 1, 1854. From this body he went out with a colony of two hundred and twenty members, and organized the Olivet Baptist Church, October 7, 1856. They built the fine edifice at the southeast corner of Sixth and Federal Streets. Extensive revivals, in which hundreds were converted and immersed, together with the other labors of his office, so impaired his health that in September, 1864, he closed his eleven years' pastorate in Philadelphia, and retired to his farm near Colmar, Montgomery Co. As his health soon began to improve he gave short periods of service to New Britain Baptist Church, Bucks County, Bristol Church, and the Gwynedd Baptist Church. In November, 1869, he entered upon his labors as pastor of the Montgomery Baptist Church, near Colmar Station, and since that time God has also blessed his ministry among that people. He has baptized over five hundred persons during his ministry. He is now (1885) the oldest pastor, both in age and time of service, in this part of the State, in the Baptist or any other denomination.

His sister, Caroline, married Rev. E. N. Jenks, and went as a missionary to Burmah in 1846, and died on her return voyage in 1848.

Mr. Baldwin was married, September 16, 1846, to Miss Caroline Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Edward C. Ambler, of Danbury, Conn. She was born October 14, 1826. The children from this union have been as follows:

Edward Furman, born October 22, 1847, in Monticello, Sullivan Co., N. Y., married Ella Amelia, daughter of Rev. Abijah Collins Wheat and Priscilla Pettengill Wheat, June 4, 1865, at Gwynedd Baptist Church, the ceremony being performed by Rev.

Morris Gibson, pastor of the church. Ella Amelia was born October 24, 1843, in Clinton, Conn.

The children of Edward Furman and Ella Amelia Baldwin are Carrie Wheat, born September 4, 1866; Edward, born January 8, 1868, lived but twelve hours; Rebecca Leslie, born April 12, 1869; Priscilla Edna, born January 23, 1871; Gertrude Josephine, born July 13, 1873; Frank Ambler, born March 15, 1875.

Edward Furman Baldwin graduated from college, and October 8, 1884, sailed from Philadelphia as a missionary to the Berbers, Tangiers, Morocco, Africa, where he is now very pleasantly located.

Oscar Erasmus, born November 24, 1848, died in New York, April 12, 1852.

William Flandrau, born April 30, 1851, now a farmer in Michigan.

Norman Bristol, Jr., born June 3, 1853.

Eva Caroline, born August 30, 1854, now the wife of B. F. Moyer, of Norristown,

Spencer Cone, born July 7, 1856.

Charles Jacot, born November 5, 1858.

Frank Remington, born January 17, 1860, died January 28, 1863.

L. Hornberger, born April 30, 1865.

Almira Amelia, born June 1, 1866.

Leander Wilbur, born May 19, 1870.

RICHARD KENDERDINE ROBERTS.

The progenitor of the Roberts family in Montgomery County was John Roberts, a native of Penryn, Denbighshire, North Wales, who emigrated to America in or near the year 1682, and settled in that part of the county now known as Lower Merion township. His occupation was that of a millwright, and he purchased from Thomas Wynne and John Ap John two hundred and fifty acres of land, upon which he built a mill, the third one in the province of Pennsylvania. He was unmarried until nearly or quite sixty years of age, when he married Elizabeth Owen, aged eighteen years. She died early, leaving her husband two sons and a daughter. From this small beginning has grown the numerous Roberts family in this part of the State. We have been unable to trace the ancestral line direct down to Richard K. Roberts. However, his grandfather, Joseph, owned at one time the property known as "Stever's Mills." Where he was born, or which is the direct line back to John, is not known at this time. His children were Agnes, Charles, Mary and Richard.

Charles Roberts, the second son of Joseph, was born January 21, 1807, and died August 11, 1867. His wife was Sarah Ann, daughter of Richard Kenderdine, of Horsham township. He owned the farm now occupied by Jesse Ambler, and better known as the Jonathan Jarrett place. Sarah Ann Roberts died September 12, 1871. The children of Charles and Sarah Ann Roberts were: I.—Elizabeth, born Eleventh Month

10, 1832, died Second Month 9, 1862. II.—Gulia Elma, born Tenth Month 3, 1834, married, Eleventh Month 8, 1864, to Edwin Thomas, and died Third Month 31, 1865. At the age of sixteen she commenced teaching school, and taught for nearly sixteen years. III.—Jesse, born Second Month 13, 1837, married Sarah Emma Skirving, of Germantown. Her father was John Skirving, Esq. Jesse owned the old homestead in Upper Dublin township. IV.—George K., born Fifth Month 5, 1841, married Elizabeth Shay, of Horsham township. George is a banker and merchant in Phoenixville, Pa. He served three years as a sergeant in Company A, First New Jersey Cav-

lersville Normal School, Lancaster Co., Pa.; also a graduate from Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Philadelphia, and for several years was a successful teacher.

Richard K. Roberts was reared upon the farm of his father in Upper Dublin township, and during the summer months he performed such duties as were incumbent upon a youth of his age, and during the winter seasons attended the neighboring schools, and attended the Normal Institute at Carversville, Bucks Co., Pa., during the winter terms of 1861 and 1863, and by strict attention to his studies obtained a good academic education, and subsequently taught school



Richard K. Roberts

alry, during the late slave-holders' rebellion. V.—Richard Kenderdine Roberts, born Second Month 5, 1843, in Upper Dublin township, this county. He married, Third Month 12, 1879, Ruth Anna, daughter of Hugh B. and Sarah B. Michener, of Plumstead township, Bucks Co., Pa. She was born Third Month 7, 1851. They are parents of children as follows: David Foulke, born Second Month 26, 1880, died Seventh Month 8, 1884; William Ely, born Fifth Month 10, 1881. VI.—Anna Jane, born Tenth Month 7, 1845, died First Month 31, 1866, unmarried. VII.—Joseph, born Ninth Month 11, 1848, married Mary W., daughter of William R. Evans, of Carversville, Bucks Co., Pa. Joseph was a graduate from Mil-

two winters in Schuylkill County, this State. During the war his patriotism led him to join the Union army in defense of his home and fireside, and he became a member of Company D, One Hundred and Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel Hazlett, and performed well the duties of a soldier, returning to his home when the war was ended.

In 1869 he purchased the David Jones farm of one hundred acres, upon which he now resides, surrounded by his little family, and happy in the enjoyment of one of the most honorable and independent vocations of life. He is a member of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting, Society of Friends, and is a minister of that society.

JOHN SELSER.

John Selser, the oldest living native of Montgomery township, was born on the farm and in the house where he now lives December 28, 1793. Mr. Selser has for three-quarters of a century and more been one of the sturdy, hard-working, honest, industrious yeomen of the township.

As the name indicates, he is of German ancestry, his grandfather, Nicholas Selser, having been born in the Fatherland, and emigrated to this country about the middle of the last century, and purchased the farm where his grandson has thus far spent ninety-one years of his life. The property was inherited by John,

Mary Ellen Field, daughter of Thomas T. and Elizabeth Field, of Northampton township, Bucks Co., Pa. She was born December 15, 1831. Her father, Thomas T. Field, was born July 30, 1803, and her mother, Elizabeth (Larue) Field, was born December 12, 1807.

David G. Selser, the great-grandson of Nicholas, is now (1885) with his parents and sister, Lydia A., in occupation of the old homestead where three generations have been born, and where he has lived for sixty-three years. Lydia A., the second child of John and Hannah Selser, was born October 7, 1824, is unmarried, and the comfort of her aged parents.

Elizabeth Selser, born September 27, 1827, married



John Selser

son of Nicholas, who married Catharine Schlater, daughter of Casper Schlater. Their children were Isaac, Mary, John (the subject of this sketch), Elizabeth, Jesse and Rachael. The father of these children died April 3, 1815, leaving the homestead to his son John.

He married, December 14, 1820, Miss Hannah Grove, who was born June 14, 1795. The parents of Mrs. Selser were David and Hannah (Keeley) Grove, who were also the parents of Elizabeth, Susan, Catharine, Henry and David. Mrs. Selser is still living, the solace and comfort of her aged husband.

Their children are six in number, as follows: David G., born June 28, 1822, married, June 13, 1867, Miss

Emanuel Jacoby, of New Britain township, Bucks Co., Pa., where she spent her married life. She died March 7, 1861, leaving two sons, Frank P., now living in Philadelphia, and Charles S., who died October 30, 1884, at the residence of his grandfather, John Selser, in Montgomery township. Frank P. married Miss Kate Shugard.

William Selser, born October 28, 1830, married Margaretta, daughter of John D. Wentz, of Cheltenham township, and died August 4, 1872, leaving three children,—John W., William A. and Hannah Louisa. John W., eldest son of William, married, May 8, 1878, Ella Maria, daughter of Charles and Ruth Ann Heller.

John A. Selser, born June 14, 1832; is unmarried.

Charles N. Selser, born August 28, 1835; married Sarah, only child of Jacob and Mary Sthase. She died March 10, 1884.

ROBERT SHAW.

John Shaw, the father of Robert, was a native of Bucks County, where he successfully cultivated a farm. He was married to Miss Martha Brown, whose children were Elias, Robert, Sarah (Mrs. Moses Gibson) and Rachel (Mrs. James Sands). Robert, the second son in order of birth, is a native of Buckingham township, in Bucks County, where he was born on the

engaged until 1881. He meanwhile erected a spacious residence and otherwise greatly improved the property, but in 1884, having retired from active labor, removed to Norristown and became a member of the family of his son. Mr. Shaw has been in politics either a Whig or a Republican, but found little time to devote to matters apart from his legitimate vocation. He is by birth a Friend, and worshiped for years with the Gwynedd Friends' Meeting. His recent change of residence renders the Norristown Friends' Meeting more convenient, and with this he has latterly been associated. The death of Mrs. Catherine Shaw occurred February 19, 1876.



Robert Shaw

14th of April, 1801. Here his youth was passed amid scenes peculiar to the life of a farmer, and with such meagre advantages of education as the neighborhood afforded. He assisted his father for years in his daily routine of labor, and on the 15th of October, 1826, was married to Miss Catherine Shamel, daughter of Conrad and Mollie Shamel, of Montgomery township and county, whose birth occurred August 28, 1797. Their children are Anna Maria (Mrs. Nathan Allen), Sarah Wilhelmina (deceased), and John (married to Anna M., daughter of Adam Moore, of Gwynedd, who has one son, Walter M., a student in the University of Pennsylvania). Soon after his marriage Robert Shaw removed to a farm in Montgomery township, which his wife inherited, where he continued actively

JOSEPH MITCHELL, JR.

Abel Mitchell, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in England, and, with a brother came to America, as nearly as can be ascertained, in 1774, and located in Philadelphia. The brother who came with Abel subsequently returned to England, while Abel remained in his adopted country, married, reared a family and died at the advanced age of eighty-four years, six months and four days. His wife, Sarah, died at the age of seventy-six years, three months and nine days. Their children were Joseph, Abel and William.

Of these sons, Joseph, father of Joseph, Jr., was born in Philadelphia, November 19, 1798, and is still living, an honored and respected citizen of

Montgomery township. At an early age he was apprenticed to Jacob Coons, of Philadelphia, to learn the trade of a gunsmith. After serving his time he went to Valley Forge, where he worked as a journeyman gunsmith for a time with Brooks Ivins, and subsequently returned to Philadelphia, where he established, and for several years carried on, an extensive business in the manufacture of small fire-arms. In 1841 he removed to Montgomery township, where he commenced farming on one hundred and thirty acres of land adjoining the farm now owned and occupied by his son Joseph.

His wife, Dorothy Mitchell, was born September

Annie, born in Philadelphia August 6, 1833. She married, for her first husband, Samuel Barr, and for her second husband, Joseph Hughes, also deceased. She now lives in Germantown, Pa.

Emily, born in Philadelphia August 26, 1839, married Thomas Moore, and now lives in Germantown.

Elizabeth, born January 15, 1843, in Montgomery township, Montgomery Co., Pa., unmarried, and lives at home.

Joseph Mitchell, Jr., married, March 8, 1852, Miss Emeline, daughter of William and Hannah Moore, of Montgomery township. She was born January 3, 1829.



Joseph Mitchell
Jr.

14, 1801, and died September 10, 1879, and was buried on her seventy-eighth birthday. They were the parents of the following-named children:

George, born in Philadelphia August 19, 1823, married Miss Catharine Ann Phipps, who was born September 30, 1831.

Sarah, born in Philadelphia July 30, 1825, married John Hoffman, who died February 19, 1884, and was buried on the 23d of same month.

Mary, born in Philadelphia May 27, 1828, married John Schutt.

Joseph, Jr., born in Philadelphia September 6, 1830.

The Moores were a Chester County family. However, William lived subsequently to his marriage in Montgomery County. The children of Joseph and Emeline have been as follows:

I. Samuel, born January 29, 1853, married Miss Willimina Clymer, who was born in Bucks County, Pa., May 17, 1858. They have two children,—Julia Elizabeth, born June 26, 1877, and Arthur Ivin, born May 29, 1883.

II. Joseph M., born September 15, 1856, married Miss Laura G., daughter of John and Catharine White, of Montgomery County. Laura G. was born March 18, 1860. Their children are Bessie May,

born February 16, 1879; Howard Leon, born July 30, 1881; and Owen, born September 28, 1883.

III. William Henry, born October 29, 1858, died July 25, 1859.

IV. Charles Edward, born July 25, 1860.

V. Francis, born July 16, 1862.

VI. Elias, born December 13, 1864.

VII. Hannah Ellen, born December 4, 1866.

VIII. Mary Elizabeth, born January 6, 1869.

IX. Howard, born June 17, 1871.

The children of William and Hannah Moore, parents of Mrs. Mitchell, were Emeline, Mary Ann, Oliver and Elias (born October 30, 1836). The last-named lives at Sellersville, Bucks Co., Pa., is a blacksmith by occupation, and is now engaged in the butchering business for the Philadelphia market. His wife was Margaret Fry, of Montgomery township.

Joseph Mitchell, Jr., at the age of sixteen years, was apprenticed to Thomas Warnup, of Montgomery Square, to learn the trade of a wheelwright, and served four years, after which he worked as a journeyman for one year, then carried on business for himself for a short time, when he abandoned the slow and tedious method of earning a livelihood by repairing old sleds and wagons, and engaged heartily in the butchering and farming business for the Philadelphia market, which he still continues.

April 2, 1866, he purchased the farm where he now resides, containing twenty-two acres, and erected thereon the large and commodious buildings and the beautiful residence he now occupies. He has also added to his possessions the old and well-known Shaw farm, adjoining his first purchase, containing seventy-six acres.

Upon this farm stands a natural curiosity in the form of a huge poplar-tree, the admiration of all who have seen it. Its height is one hundred and sixty feet, as nearly as can be ascertained, one hundred feet to the first limbs, and three feet from the ground it measures eighteen feet in circumference.

He also owns a farm of forty-two acres in New Britain township, Bucks Co., Pa. Mr. Mitchell is well and favorably known throughout the county, and his thorough business habits, his honesty and uprightness of character and fair dealing with his fellow-men place him high in the estimation of his neighbors, who have honored him with several official positions. He was elected constable and collector of the township in 1861 and served for seven years, when he resigned his official position. He is a liberal contributor to the various religious organizations in Montgomery township.

THOMAS WILSON.

The great-grandfather of Thomas Wilson, of Montgomery township, whose name was also Thomas, came from Ireland near the middle of the last century, and located at what was known as Milestown, then in Philadelphia, now Montgomery County. From there he

moved to the farm now owned by Elliott Thomas, adjoining the farm now owned by his great-grandson, Thomas Wilson, whose farm was also a part of the original Wilson plantation. He purchased this farm, then containing one hundred and ten acres of land, in 1781 or '82, and paid for it in Continental money.

He was a captain in a militia regiment in the Continental army; and often related incidents of his experience, many of which are still remembered by the older people of the community, who knew him in his old age. The sword and belt worn by him during that struggle are now in possession of Charles S. Rorer, of Horsham township, and are highly valued as relics of the Revolutionary war.

He had a son Thomas, born in Milestown, who came with his father to Montgomery, married and became the father of children as follows, and died in 1816: Margaret, who married Gabriel Boyer, and lived near Germantown; Elizabeth, married Joseph Wright, of Horsham township; William, died unmarried; Hannah, died unmarried; Thomas, father of the present Thomas, born where Elliott Thomas now lives, married Sarah, daughter of Peter Wentz, of Montgomery township, and died in December, 1856. His wife, Sarah, died in December, 1870. They had children,—

I. Mary Ann, born January 6, 1815, married Benjamin Davis, of Montgomery Square. He died in 1840. Their children are Sarah, born in 1836, deceased, and John, born in 1839, now living in Ambler.

II. Margaret, born in 1817, married Henry Detwiler, of Horsham township. He died in 1870. They had children,—Abraham, Arabella, Clara, William and John.

III. Euphemia, born in 1819, married John Denenhower, of Hilltown, Bucks Co., Pa. They have two children, Harrison and Clara.

IV. Thomas, born September 23, 1821, on the old plantation, married, October 23, 1847, Ann Delp, born June 8, 1829, daughter of Isaac and Ann Delp, of Franconia township. They are the parents of children as follows:

1. Harrison, born October 8, 1848, married Emma Berrell, of Willow Grove. They have three children,—Carrie, Warren and Maggie.

2. Abner, born November 26, 1849, married Mary Buckley, of Philadelphia. Abner was killed September 18, 1880, by an accident in a stone-quarry on the Horsham road. Their children are Abner and Joseph.

3. Thomas, Jr., born August 22, 1851, married Miss Kate, daughter of Charles Bennett, of Horsham township, and now resides near Lansdale. Their children are Beatrice and Thomas.

4. John, born January 4, 1855, died April 5, 1855.

5. William, born September 25, 1857; unmarried.

6. Lincoln, born August 2, 1860; unmarried.

7. Ella, born April 12, 1862, married Andrew Fry, of Lumberville, Bucks Co., Pa. Their children are Anna and Mabel.

8. Anna, born May 31, 1865, died April 22, 1866.

9. Katie, born March 19, 1868.

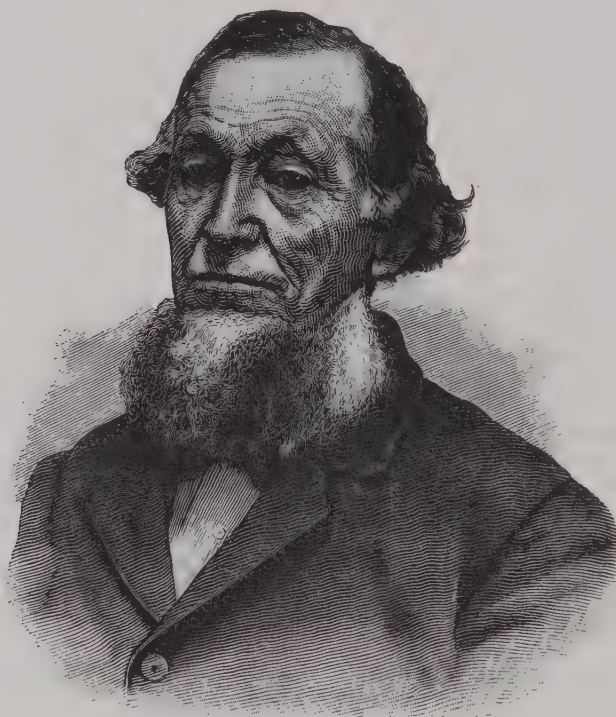
10. Emma, born September 28, 1871.

Mr. Wilson is one of the conservative, honest and industrious farmers of the township, and has always lived upon the original plantation purchased by his great-grandfather, it having passed by inheritance from father to son down to the present Thomas Wilson, who erected substantial and convenient farm buildings in 1856, the year previous to his taking full possession of the property.

CHAPTER LXIV.

MORELAND TOWNSHIP.

THIS is the most eastern township in the county, and is bounded on the north by Hatboro', northeast by Bucks County, southeast by Philadelphia, southwest by Abington, and northwest by Horsham and Upper Dublin. Its length is six miles, and its breadth three, with an area of ten thousand nine hundred and sixty acres, having been reduced up-



Thomas Wilson

Although Mr. Wilson's life has been spent upon his beautiful farm, he has been somewhat active in municipal affairs, and his townsmen have upon several occasions honored him with official positions of trust. He has been supervisor of roads for six years, also one of the election board for several years, and for the past few years a member of the board of school directors of the township. Mr. Wilson is also one of the most extensive contractors and builders in the northern part of Montgomery County, and has built a larger number of farm-barns and first-class farm-houses than any one man in the county.

wards of five hundred acres in 1871, by the incorporation of Hatboro'. The surface is rolling, particularly in the vicinity of Willow Grove, Huntingdon Valley and the central portion. The soil is a fertile loam composed of some gravel, with but little clay. The Pennypack is the most considerable stream, and in a course of over six miles through the township turns four grist-mills and receives eleven tributary streams, the most considerable of which are Huntingdon Valley, Round Meadow and Terwood Runs,

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

which also furnish water-power. On Lindstrom's map of 1654 it is called Penichpacks, which Heckewelder says in the Delaware language signifies "deep, dead water, or having but little current." This stream is noted for forming a boundary to no less than four distinct purchases for lands made with the Indians by William Penn or his agents. In its general aspect Moreland is beautifully diversified with hill and dale, and watered with numerous small, unfailing streams. Edge Hill crosses through its centre, and continues in a western direction to the Schuylkill. Near Shelmire's Mills the Pennypack flows through it, imparting considerable wildness to the scenery. The highest eminence is near Willow Grove and affords fine distant prospects.

The geology of this township possesses considerable interest and deserves further investigation. The prevailing rocks consist of syenite, granite, sandstone and mica-schist. At Willow Grove, iron-ore, fire-clay, kaolin, quartz and feldspar abound. In this vicinity, in the primal white sandstone is found the *scolithus linearis*, supposed to be the oldest fossil yet found in Pennsylvania. These consist of straight, cylindrical, stem-like impressions, whose length varies from several inches to above two feet, with a diameter of from one-eighth to half an inch, the position being generally perpendicular to the stratification. Some have supposed it to be the remains of algæ, others that it was the boring of a marine worm of the aforesaid name. "The Rocks," about half a mile to the east of Willow Grove, on the steep side of a wooded hill, are composed of a very hard conglomerate of small pebbles of blue quartz. This has been supposed to be the earliest known beach of the Cambrian formation. But what the evidences are of a beach, have not been advanced by the speculators. In the vicinity of Benjamin Morgan's grist-mill, on Round Meadow Run, a short mile to the northeast of the village, are to be found rocks composed of very coarse conglomerate, the pebbles being chiefly composed of white quartz, some of the size of eggs. The banks of the stream a few yards above the mill appear to be almost entirely composed of coarse white pebbles. In this vicinity marine remains have been found for eighty years past, consisting of shells of various kinds, some of which, secured from the bed of the stream, are in the writer's possession. In digging a well, some twenty-five years ago, about one-third of a mile southeast of Morgan's mill, a fine body of white kaolin was reached, which some day might be turned to profitable account. On the Welsh road, a few yards west of the Pennypack Creek, graphite or black-lead has been known for nearly a century. In the beginning of May, 1850, a mine was opened and a quantity excellent in quality secured, which was worked for a while when the attempt was abandoned. In the vicinity of Hatboro' are fine quarries of sandstone and a coarse sand adapted to building purposes.

There are several turnpikes in the township; among these may be mentioned the Cheltenham and Willow Grove, finished in 1804; the Doylestown, in 1840; the Middle road, to the "Sorrel Horse," in 1848; and the Warminster in 1850. The North East Pennsylvania Railroad has two miles of road in this township, and has stations at Willow Grove, Heaton, Fulmor and Bonair. The branch extending from Jenkintown to New York, has a course of two miles and a half, and a station called Bethayres. The Newtown Railroad has three miles of track in the township with stations at Huntingdon Valley and Byberry road. The principal villages are Willow Grove, Huntingdon Valley and Yerkessville. The population in 1790 was, 1284, in 1830, 2044; and in 1880, 1746. For 1882, 510 taxables were returned, holding real estate valued at \$1,897,415. As regards the average per taxable it is the fifth in rank. In May, 1883, the township contained five hotels, five general stores, three dealers in flour and feed, one in fertilizers, one in agricultural implements and one coal and one lumber-yard. There are three houses of worship, belonging, respectively, to the Orthodox Friends, Methodist Episcopalians and Presbyterians. According to the census of 1850, 410 houses, 410 families and 218 farms were returned.

Moreland forms one school district, and for the year ending with June 1, 1882, its seven public schools were open ten months, with an average attendance of one hundred and eighty-two pupils. These were held in five school-houses, located at Willow Grove, Huntingdon Valley, Paper-Mill Hill, Wood's Hill and Walnut Valley. Education is encouraged, for the schools have been kept continuously open ten months every year since June 1, 1850. An act was passed June 30, 1836, establishing public schools throughout the State, which this district, by a vote, did not accept. By the act of April 11, 1848, the common school system was enforced on the unaccepting districts, when the township opened five schools for six months, ending with the close of the school year, June 1, 1849. In 1850 two additional school-houses were built, one at the Paper-Mill and the other at Walnut Valley, on the Byberry road.

Willow Grove is situated at the confluence of the Doylestown with the York Road, thirteen miles north of Philadelphia, and near the Abington township line. It contains two hotels, two stores, post-office, several manufacturing establishments and mechanic shops, a railroad-station and about twenty houses. The country in the vicinity is rolling, and the highest eminence for some distance around rises to the east of the village. In 1711 the York Road was laid out through here to the city. The stream flowing through here in 1722 was known as Round Meadow Run, over which at that time a bridge was constructed. In 1719, James Dubree purchased here two hundred acres and Jacob Dubree one hundred acres, upon which they settled and probably made the first improvements. The latter devised his property, in 1742, to his

son, whom we know advertised, in 1746, his two hundred acres for sale, stating it to contain "20 acres of meadow, a double house, good barn and a fine young orchard." John Paul advertised, in 1768, his tavern, "sign of the Wagon," here for sale, with one hundred and two acres of land. He states that the "stables will contain near 100 horses. The house is allowed to be the best between the Rising Sun and Coryell's Ferry, with three roads passing by." This long known as the "Red Lion," was kept by Joseph Butler during the Revolution, by William Heaton in 1786, by Israel Michener from 1804 to 1822 and by Jacob E. Buck from 1842 to 1868, since which time it has been no longer a public-house. The stabling for "near 100 horses" would indicate considerable travel, even several years before the Revolution. The name of the place was given it by Reading Howell, as may be seen on his large township map of Pennsylvania, published in 1792. In James Mease's "Picture of Philadelphia," published in 1811, is this allusion to Willow Grove: "At Rex's tavern you can be well entertained; here is also a fine spring, highly impregnated with iron, and a spacious bath-house, supplied with mineral water, for the accommodation of visitors." About this time it commenced to be a noted summer resort to Philadelphians, which it has continued to be to this day. George Rex, Sr., had moved hither from Germantown before 1792, and after 1803 established the Mineral Spring Hotel, afterwards so long kept by George Rex, his nephew, to whom he had bequeathed the property. Israel Michener kept the post-office here in 1816, which must have been established several years previously. The first school-house was built in 1839, on a half-acre lot, presented for this purpose by George Rex, Sr. A fine two-story stone building now occupies the site of the public school. In 1851 five daily lines of stages passed through here to Philadelphia, from Easton, Doylestown, Lambertville and Hartsville. After the opening of the railroad, in December, 1872, a creamery was built here by an association of farmers, and phosphate-works erected, which are now conducted on an extensive scale by William C. Newport & Co.

Huntingdon Valley is situated on the Middle road, near the Pennypack Creek, and but a short distance from the Abington line. It contains two hotels, two stores, a hall, merchant mill, church, post-office, coal and lumber-yard, railroad-station and about forty houses. Eagle Hall, belonging to the I. O. O. F., was originally built in 1850, is a large two-story stone building, recently improved. The Presbyterian Church is a one-story stone building, surmounted with a steeple, erected in 1861. The pastors who have served the church from its organization are as follows: Revs. George J. Mingins, James B. Kennedy, Thomas Gray, T. C. Anderson, J. J. Cowles and the Rev. W. S. Barnes, the present pastor. The church has a membership of eighty-four. Adjoining the latter is a hall for concerts and lectures, contain-

ing a reading-room and library. The public school-house is two stories high, built in 1857. A factory has recently been erected here by a company for the manufacture of metallic caps for blasting purposes, employing about a dozen hands and capable of turning out forty thousand caps daily. Near the lower part of the village the Jenkintown Branch of the New York Railroad and the Newtown Railroad intersect each other, tending to add considerable to its prosperity. In 1852 the place contained only twelve or fourteen houses. In 1711 the Welsh road is mentioned as crossing at a ford here over the Pennypack, showing that there was then some travel and a settlement made. John Boutcher, of Moreland, by his will, dated June 25, 1707, bequeathed to his son Samuel three hundred and fifty acres of land, with all its improvements, and mentioned it as being "at Huntingdon." A part of this tract came in possession of Thomas Austin, whom we know had a grist-mill erected thereon before 1747, a public road to which is mentioned. This is the mill property now belonging to John Walton, from whose deeds we have received these facts. When application was made here for a post-office, which was previous to 1850, to retain the name of Huntingdon, *Valley* was added on account of the former name existing elsewhere in the State. About the beginning of this century the name of Goosetown was given it, derived, it is said, from the great numbers of geese raised in this vicinity along the Pennypack. On the completion of the railroad to New York, in 1876, the station here was called Bethayres, a contraction of Elizabeth Ayres, who was born here and mother of one of the directors of this improvement. Near where the Welsh road crosses the Pennypack are still to be seen the ruins of the old stone school-house, built about 1790, where the ancestors of numbers in the vicinity formerly received their education. The turnpike through here to the Fox Chase was finished in 1848, crossing the Pennypack by a substantial stone bridge, built by the county in 1811. Although the merchant mill of Mr. Walton here is situated nine miles from the source of the creek, which receives in this distance numerous tributaries, the diminution of water in dry seasons became so great that in the summer of 1881 he had placed within it a steam-engine to afford additional power. Along the stream in this vicinity the ground lies low, and in time of freshets is subject to overflows. The surrounding country, however, is quite rolling and attains to some elevation. The Pennypack here affords boating and fishing, and a short distance below the turnpike bridge the scenery assumes a more romantic character. The census of 1880 exhibits one hundred and fifty-four inhabitants.

Yerkesville is situated not far from the centre of the township, near Terwood Run, and has also been long known as Blaker's Corner. It contains about eight houses, a store and blacksmith-shop. Richard E. Yerkes carried on here a cotton-factory in 1850. On

its site, in 1776, John Nesmith carried on a grist and saw-mill. Shelmire's Mills, on the Pennypack, was formerly a noted business place. Near the beginning of this century Jacob Shelmire carried on here extensively the manufacture of flour. The Sorrel Horse tavern is situated on the Middle road pike, about two miles above Huntingdon Valley. The township elections have been held here for about half a century, the Lower District voting here since 1878. The turnpike was extended from this place to Richborough in 1850. Morgan's Mill is near Heaton Station, and contains a grist-mill and ten houses.

This township was called by William Penn after Nicholas More, a physician of London, president of the Free Society of Traders and the first chief justice of Pennsylvania, who arrived here in November, 1682. More is a word of Celtic origin, signifying great. The warrant was granted 5th of Eleventh Month, 1682, for nine thousand eight hundred and fifteen acres, and it was located and the deed given the 7th of Sixth Month, 1684. In an examination of Holme's map of original surveys it will be observed that a long, narrow strip between More's grant and the Bucks County line is mentioned thereon as belonging to Joel Jelson, Thomas Lloyd and Thomas Fairman, containing about fourteen hundred acres. With this exception, the original purchase comprised all of what was known by the name of Moreland, in Philadelphia County, down to the organization of Montgomery, in 1784, when much the larger portion was taken into the latter county. By the conditions of his patent, Nicholas More and his heirs and successors were required to pay forever unto the proprietary and his heirs and successors annually a silver English shilling for every hundred acres as quit-rent. This payment was about equivalent to the interest of three hundred and seventy-five dollars at six per cent. The commissioners of property issued a warrant, dated July 10, 1689, to Thomas Fairman, the deputy surveyor-general, to resurvey this grant, when an overplus of five hundred acres was found and was laid off in one piece on the upper part, adjoining the present township of Horsham.

About 1685, Nicholas More commenced the erection of buildings on the eastern part of his tract, near the present village of Somerton, now in Philadelphia, and where he also built a mansion-house, which formed the first settlement in Moreland, and called it Green Spring. In April, 1685, the Council ordered that the boundary between Philadelphia and Bucks should be determined. In making this survey we learn that where the County Line road extends along the entire length of the township there was then a dense forest, and that they were compelled to mark the course on the trees.

After his death, in 1688, the heirs of Nicholas More continued selling off portions of his extensive estate to actual settlers and others, so that the

greater part was sold before 1720. In 1703 twelve hundred acres were purchased by Nicholas Waln and Thomas Shute; this embraced all the land in and around the Willow Grove and the western corner of the township. In 1719, Jacob and James Dubree purchased three hundred acres from the heirs and settled upon the same. In the vicinity of Huntingdon Valley, in 1702, three hundred and fifty acres were sold to John Boutcher. Richard Hill of Philadelphia, in 1711, purchased four hundred and five acres, and, in 1713, fourteen hundred and four acres additional, which lay along the Abington line and extended to the present Yerkessville. All this tract was still in the possession of the family in the year 1730.

William Allen, of Philadelphia, sold to William Walton, in 1712, five hundred and fifty-two acres situated to the southeast of Hatboro'. James Cooper purchased three hundred acres, in 1711, in the vicinity of Morgan's Mill, on which he settled and made the first improvements. On a part of this tract Thomas Parry built a grist-mill before 1736. The York Road, in 1711, was extended across the full breadth of the northwest part of the township up to the river Delaware; at the present Centre Bridge. The Welsh road was laid out the same year from Gwynedd to the present Huntingdon Valley, to enable the people settled there to reach the Pennypack Mills. The Byberry road was extended to Horsham Meeting-house in 1720. In 1722 roads were laid out from the York Road at the present Willow Grove, and on the Bucks County line to Governor Keith's settlement, in Horsham. All these improvements invited settlement and denoted that a rapid extension of population was taking place northwards from the city.

In 1734 Moreland had already seventy-one taxables settled within its limits. Of this number, forty-three were land-holders and the balance tenants. Of the former, John Van Buskirk is mentioned as owning 180 acres; Benjamin Cooper, 100; Walter Comly, 100; John Comly, 100; John Dorland, 200; Thomas Pennington, 150; Sampson David, 50; John Ledyard, 100; James Dubree, 150; Joseph Comly, 100; John Simcock, 10; David Marple, Thomas Murrell, 15; John Dawson, 3; William Hancock, 1; Daniel Dawson, 4; William Murray, 29; William Mops, 19; Standish Ford, 4; Isaac Tustin, 100; Richard Marple, 170; Garret Wynkoop, 200; Henry Comly, 300; Isaac Walton, 100; Peter Luken, 100; Nicholas Gilbert, 200; Thomas Lloyd, 120; Thomas Wood, 200; Jeremiah Walton, 100; James Hawkins, 50; Thomas Walton, 50; Thomas Whitten, 100; John Boutcher, 100; Widow Dungworth, 9; Cornelius Wynkoop, 100; Thomas Kirke, 40; Patrick Kelly, 100; Joseph Duffield, 200; Joseph Van Buskirk, 150; Joseph McVaugh, 100; Harman Yerkes, 150; Theodorus Hall, 150; and Samuel Boutcher, 50 acres. From the list of tenants we extract the following names: James Watson, Peter Jones, John Michener, Jacob Bennet.

Caleb Walton, Samuel Worthington, George Newell, James Erwin, Tunis Titus and Joseph Lewis.

Of the descendants of those in the aforesaid list, we still find here those bearing the names of Van Buskirk, Comly, Marple, Murray, Wynkoop, Walton, Gilbert, Lloyd, Wood, Bouteher, Duffield, McVaugh, Yerkes, Michener, Worthington, Erwin and Titus. Of the aforesaid, the Yerkes' have become the most numerous. David and Anthony Yerkes, ancestors of the family, came from Germany and settled in Germantown before the year 1693. Harman Yerkes, in the above list, resided in the central part of the township, near the present Shelmire's Mills. Henry Comly, of Bucks County, in 1695, purchased of John Holme, Nicholas More's mansion and six hundred acres near Somerton, which remained in the family until 1860, when, on the death of Franklin Comly, Esq., then came into possession of Moses Knight. Jeremiah Walton, Sr., came from Byberry, and was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Walmsley. They had children,—William, born 1719; Thomas, 1721; Rachel, 1724; Jeremiah, 1726; Jacob, 1728; James, 1730; Mary, 1732; Sarah, 1734; Elizabeth, 1737; and Phebe, 1740. He died in 1740 and was buried at Horsham. John and Sarah Michener settled about a mile east of Willow Grove in 1715. They had six children, and their descendants are now numerous. In the assessment of Moreland for 1776 we find the names of Thomas Michener, holding one hundred and sixty acres, and William Michener, one hundred acres. Arnold Michener, cordwainer, is mentioned as residing in Abington in 1780. The aforesaid John Michener was one of the founders and overseers of Horsham Meeting, and was settled in Philadelphia before 1696.

Concerning the disappearance of certain animals and birds in this section, the following facts have been ascertained: Thomas Hallowell shot two deer, in 1744, near the Upper Dublin line. A bear was seen in that vicinity as late as 1772. James Dubree, in 1762, shot a wild turkey that weighed thirty-two pounds, on a tall hickory-tree, half a mile west of Willow Grove. This tree was three feet in diameter and stood until about 1866, when it was blown down in a storm. Joseph Hallowell shot, in the same vicinity, between the years 1774 and 1776, four wild turkeys. Previous to 1810 wild pigeons bred in the woods, and as many as twenty nests were sometimes counted on one tree. Raccoon-hunting by moonlight was a favorite diversion as late as 1820. Such are the changes brought about by an increasing population since the first settlement!

From the assessment of 1776 we obtain the following information: Samuel Shoemaker, a tan-yard and 75 acres; Isaac Cadwallader and Mordecai Thomas, smiths; Isaac Stoltz, Stephen Love and Samuel Shoemaker, masons; Isaac Longstreth, tan-yard and 9 acres; Samuel Swift, doctor; John Blaker, joiner; Philip Crips, cooper; Robert Field, turner; Joseph

Hart, grist-mill and 40 acres; Silas Yerkes, grist-mill and 100 acres; Daniel Regen, grist-mill and 47 acres; John Parry, grist-mill and 106 acres; John Nesmith, grist and saw-mill and 60 acres; Isaac Warner, grist and saw-mill and 19 acres; Thomas Austin, grist-mill and 140 acres. Joseph Hart's mill is now owned by Dr. William Hallowell, and was built in 1762 by Samuel Lloyd. John Parry's mill is now owned by Benjamin Morgan. John Nesmith's mill was on the site of the cotton-factory at Yerkesville. Thomas Austin's mill at Huntingdon Valley, is now owned by John Walton. Silas Yerkes' grist-mill is the property so long known as Shelmire's Mills. John Tomkins kept store in Hatboro', and probably then the only one in the township. In the Revolution the British did some damage in Moreland,—most likely in some of their incursions while in possession of Philadelphia. For this cause Samuel Bouteher, residing near Huntingdon Valley, was allowed £402; William Tillyer, £250; James Dyer, £176; and John Wynkoop, £119.

In the assessment of Moreland for 1785 mention is made of 343 horses, 373 cattle, 4 bound servants, 19 negro slaves, 14 riding-chairs, 3 family wagons, 1 phaeton, 10 grist-mills, 3 saw-mills, one fulling-mill, 1 oil-mill, 2 tanneries and 1 distillery. The largest land-holders were: Jonathan Clayton, 370 acres; Isaac Boileau, 220; Samuel Bouteher, 202; Mordecai Thomas, 194; Joseph Folwell, 186; Abraham Duffield, 157; and Andrew Van Buskirk, 153 acres. According to the census of 1790, Isaac Boileau had 3 slaves; Garret Wynkoop, 2; Andrew Van Buskirk, 2; Joseph Folwell, 1; and Enoch Green, 1. In the assessment of 1787 mention is made of Peter Tyson having an oil and fulling-mill; David Cumming, store-keeper, 2 bought servants, 134 acres, 4 dwellings, 3 horses and a riding-chair; Mordecai Thomas, 194 acres, 4 dwellings, grist-mill and 3 horses; William Dean, Esq., 108 acres, 3 horses and a riding-chair. Mr. Cumming kept store at the Willow Grove, Mordecai Thomas resided at Hatboro', and Mr. Dean was a magistrate at Huntingdon Valley and colonel of the Fourth Battalion of the Philadelphia militia from 1777 to 1780.¹

Among the township officers Henry Comly was collector in 1718; Joseph Hall, 1719; Marcus Huling, 1720; Thomas Parry, 1723; William Britain, 1724; and Walter Comly in 1742. Joseph Kelly was appointed to said office in 1741, and on his refusal to serve was fined ten shillings. Joseph Butler was constable in 1767 and John Wynkoop in 1774; Philip Wynkoop and John Hancock supervisors in 1767; Isaac Cadwallader and John Sommer in 1773; Garret Van Buskirk and John Rhoads in 1785; and Amos Addis and Charles Johnson in 1810. The elections for Moreland and twelve other town-

¹ Col. Dean was one of the first four Justices of the Montgomery County Courts. Died September 4, 1807, aged sixty-seven years.

ships were held at Whitemarsh for twelve years, when, in 1797, they were removed to Abington; next, in 1813, to Hatboro', and before 1838 to the "Sorrel Horse." Moreland was divided March 4, 1878, by order of court, into what is called the Upper and Lower Election Districts, the former voting at Willow Grove and the latter at the "Sorrel Horse."

Montgomery was formed into a county from Philadelphia by an act passed September 10, 1784. The twenty-first section of the act states that "it is represented by petition to the General Assembly that by the lines hereinbefore mentioned a long, narrow neck or point of land, being part of the Manor of Moreland, and lying between the townships of Byberry and Lower Dublin, in the county of Philadelphia, would be included in the county of Montgomery, to the great inconvenience and injury of the inhabitants of the said neck of land, who have prayed that they may remain with the county of Philadelphia." In consequence it was determined "That the boundary lines of the said county of Montgomery shall be as follows: that is to say, beginning in the line of Bucks County, where the same is intersected by the line which divides the township of Byberry and the Manor of Moreland, thence southwesterly along the last-mentioned line to the first corner or turning thereof, and thence on the same southeasterly course to the line of Lower Dublin." The part of Moreland thus cut off and left to Philadelphia, by the census of 1800, contained three hundred and sixty-two inhabitants and three thousand seven hundred acres, reducing the population and area about one-fourth. Although the original survey of the manor was not quite ten thousand acres, through the addition made along the Bucks County line afterwards the portion that went to Montgomery County was estimated to contain in all eleven thousand four hundred and sixty-four acres, showing that a liberal allowance had been given.

About 1794, Thomas Langstroth built a paper-mill on the Pennypack, near the central part of the township. Here, in 1795, Samuel D. Ingham, of Solebury, in his sixteenth year, went to serve as an apprentice to learn the business. In the school-house near by Mr. Adrian taught a night-school during the winter, which Mr. Ingham diligently attended, and, as he afterwards stated greatly to his benefit. He worked here until he was twenty years old, when Mr. Langstroth releasing him from further service, he went to New Jersey and became a foreman in a paper-mill near Bloomfield. In 1812 he was elected to Congress from Bucks, which position he held the greater portion of the time until 1829. General Jackson, in that year, entering on his duties as President, appointed Mr. Ingham Secretary of the Treasury, which office he filled for two years. Thomas Langstroth afterwards formed a partnership with his brother John in the business here for several years, when, unfortunately, on the night of March 19, 1809, the mill was burned down. At the time the loss

created considerable sympathy for the owners, and a public meeting was called and a considerable amount subscribed for their assistance. John Langstroth refused any relief and it was awarded to his brother. This property afterwards came in possession of Joseph McDowell, of Philadelphia, who carried the mill on many years. During his ownership it was greatly enlarged and the most improved machinery used. This mill too, on the night of July 1, 1858, was burned down, causing a loss of thirty thousand dollars, with an insurance, however, of twenty thousand dollars, and eighty hands were thrown out of employment. The mill since has not been rebuilt, its loss being quite a blow to the business interests of the neighborhood.

The Rev. Joshua Potts lived in the house of the late Joseph B. Yerkes, near the York Road, below Hatboro', which he built in 1759, and which is still standing, containing a stone with his name and the date. He owned here at the time several hundred acres. He was the first pastor of the Southampton Baptist Church, built in 1746, and in which he officiated till the time of his death, which happened June 18, 1761, at the age of forty-six years. He was one of the founders of the Hatboro' Library, in 1755.

John Gummere, son of Samuel, was born at Willow Grove in 1783. He commenced his career as school-teacher at Horsham, and taught successively at Rancocas and Burlington, N. J., Westtown, and Haverford, Pa. With his son, Samuel J. Gummere, he resumed the boarding-school at Burlington, N. J. His work on surveying was first published in 1814, and went through fourteen editions before being stereotyped. His "Elementary Treatise on Astronomy" was first published in 1822, and the sixth edition in 1854. He died in 1845. Samuel R. Gummere, brother of the aforesaid, was also born at Willow Grove in 1789. He was the principal, for a number of years, of a popular boarding-school for girls at Burlington, author of the "Progressive Spelling Book," "Compendium of Elocution," and a "Treatise on Geography."

The "Montgomery County Society for the recovery of stolen horses and bringing thieves to justice," originated in this township and the adjoining parts of Horsham and Upper Dublin in 1799. From an early period they have held their annual meetings chiefly at the Willow Grove. The officers in 1856 were, Joshua Y. Jones, president; T. Elwood Comly, secretary; and William Hallowell, treasurer; the society consisting of forty-five members. A company was chartered to construct a turnpike road from Doylestown to Willow Grove in 1828, and though every exertion was made at the time, failed in raising the necessary amount to construct the same. The result was an application for a second charter in 1838, and the road was finally completed in 1840. John Warner, one of the supervisors, stated in 1859, that there was in that year in Moreland 95 township bridges; a greater number than perhaps any one would have supposed. The rolling character of its surface and its being watered by so many small

streams will account for it. Scarcely a stream can be found in the township where crossed by a public road but is now bridged.

NICHOLAS MORE.—Among the early and distinguished settlers of Pennsylvania we may mention the subject of the present sketch, after whom, as its first proprietor, William Penn named the manor of Moreland. It is probable that he was a native of London; for the earliest we know about him is that he was a practicing physician there, styled in the documents of that period a "medical doctor." He embarked about October 1st in the new ship "Geoffrey," of near five hundred tons burthen, Thomas Arnold, master,



SEAL OF NICHOLAS MORE, NOV. 23, 1682.

which made the voyage in the remarkably short time of twenty-nine days, landing only a couple of days after the arrival of Penn.

On the 22d and 23d of the previous March the proprietary conveyed to Dr. More and eight others twenty thousand acres of land, called the "Manor of Frank," which was afterward located in Bucks County. These parties constituted a company called "The Free Society of Traders in Pennsylvania," the object being the purchase of lands, with a view to agricultural settlement and for the establishment of manufactories and for carrying on the lumber trade and whale fisheries. At the first meeting Dr. More was elected president for seven years at a salary of one hundred and fifty pounds per annum. The charter was granted by Penn April 4, 1682, and may now be seen in the county records at Doylestown. The president and treasurer were required to hold in their own right not less than one hundred pounds of the stock, besides five thousand acres of land in the province.

A warrant, in consequence, was given to him the 5th day of January, 1682, for nine thousand eight hundred and fifteen acres, located, and a deed given August 7, 1684. This tract then comprised very nearly all of what was known as the "Manor of Moreland," in Philadelphia County down to the organization of Montgomery in 1784, when much the larger portion was taken into the limits of the latter. The survey had been made only five days previously by the surveyor-general's order, and from the boundaries mentioned in the patent lay entirely in the wilderness, for not even a single land-owner is mentioned as adjoining it. It is stated therein as "called by the name of Moreland," and granted from "William Penn by the Providence of God and the King's authority,

Proprietary and Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania and the territories thereunto belonging."

By the conditions of his patent Dr. More, his heirs and successors, were required to pay forever a silver English shilling for every one hundred acres annually as quit-rent. About 1685 he commenced the erection of buildings on the eastern part of this tract near the present village of Somerton, and also a mansion-house, which it is likely formed the first settlement in Moreland, and called it Green Spring, where he continued to reside till his death. Judging by his purchase and the improvements he made, he must have been a person of some means, having more wealth than was generally possessed by the other early emigrants. We find that he was chosen chairman or speaker at the meeting of the first Provincial Assembly held at Chester, December 4, 1682; which, though in session only three days, passed important laws. At a council held at Lewes the 2d of May, 1683, we ascertain that Penn made him secretary of the same, and in the following September deputy for settling the boundary line with George Talbot, of Maryland.

In the beginning of 1684 he was again chosen a member of Assembly for the county of Philadelphia, and much to the opposition of several in that body re-elected speaker at their next session held at New Castle, December 3d following. The previous 4th of August, Penn commissioned him, with four others, provincial judges for two years from that date. On the 12th of the following month the Council duly qualified him to act as chief-judge of this body, which laid the foundation of our present Supreme Court. Penn, having departed for England, the assembly impeached Dr. More for several misdemeanors. This it appears, did not please the Governor, for, on the 1st of February, 1686, he changed the executive government to a board of five commissioners, among whom was Judge More and two of his associates. A letter was written and sent to Penn dated "Green Spring, 18th of December, 1686," which the governor had published in England with a preface, the following year, to prevent "Divers false reports going about Town and Country to the Injury of the Province of Pennsylvania."

As mention is made in the minutes of Assembly, under date of September 16, 1685, of his suffering from sickness and being "in a languishing condition," it is presumed that he must have died about the beginning of 1687; at least we have not been able to find any evidence of his being alive at a later date. His surviving family consisted of Mary his wife, and children,—Samuel, Nicholas, Rebecca, Mary and Sarah. Samuel, the oldest son, and Rebecca, died before 1695. Mary married Elias Keach, a distinguished Baptist preacher, and Sarah William Sluby, who resided in Philadelphia. John Holme having married, January 3, 1687–88, the widow of Nicholas More, presented a petition as one of the creditors April 23, 1695, to the executive council, who ap-

pointed a committee to examine the accounts and who reported the estate indebted to several individuals to the amount of two hundred and seventy pounds. He was, therefore, empowered to sell the plantation of Green Spring with the improvements, for a sufficient sum to pay the just debts and the education of his surviving children and the better improvement of the remainder of the estate. For this purpose the homestead of six hundred acres was sold at public sale in that year and purchased by Henry Comly, of Middletown, Bucks Co., who, in 1704, rebuilt the mansion house. The remainder of the estate was divided among the several heirs, who kept selling off tract after tract therefrom, so that in 1720 the greater portion had gone out of the family.

Sampson's Hill.—Though an inconsiderable eminence, its name for more than a century and a-half has become a familiar household word in the vicinity. It is about half a mile north of the Willow Grove, and the old York Road passes directly in a straight line over its highest part. As a ridge it extends probably a mile east and west, and about half that distance is required in crossing it by the turnpike. The forest has long ago disappeared with a trifling exception, and its surface has now become pretty well cultivated and productive. In making the survey for the turnpike its summit was ascertained to be one hundred and twenty feet above the stream at its northern base, and one hundred and four feet above the bridge at the same place. The view from its top by the road is grand; looking northwards we see the whole of Hatboro,' also Lacey's battle ground and the hills of Neshaminy; eastward we have close at hand the valley of Pennypack and the picturesque scenery of Huckleberry Hill. Looking southwards, we have the Willow Grove, Horseheaven and Edge Hill. There is no doubt that from this spot at least a hundred farm-houses are readily discernible. These in summer, with their numerous out-buildings, orchards and fields, variously checkered by the growing crops, afford to the citizen agreeable glimpses of country-life.

The old York Road was laid out over this hill to Philadelphia in 1711, and thus became one of our earliest highways to the city. A writer in *Miner's Correspondent* of June 4, 1805, says,—

"It is presumed that a beneficial improvement might be made at Sampson's Hill, in the county of Montgomery, by reducing the ascent to the common standard of turnpike roads. The natural increase of travel, especially from New Jersey, and the running of stages from Philadelphia to New York, and to Easton on that road, fully require that such an improvement be made."

Forty-six years elapsed, we believe, before this design was fully carried out. From ancient deeds it appears that some time before 1720 Sampson Davis became the owner of all the land on the northeastern side of the hill up to the present road and bridge. He was a Welshman by birth, and on the site of the present Water Cure establishment he first built himself a cabin, which stood not far from the fine spring

of water which is mentioned further on. From the "Votes of Assembly for 1728" we learn that Sir William Keith, who then resided in Horsham, was an occasional visitor at his house. From the minutes of Abington Monthly Meeting we learn that he had procured for himself and wife a certificate of removal to Philadelphia, dated 28th of Twelfth Month, 1736-37. It was from him as the principal owner that this hill derived its name, which was thus early applied by the original settlers.

The Hatboro' and Warminster Turnpike Road Company was incorporated May 8, 1850, and this highway extends from Willow Grove to the Street road, a distance of four and a-half miles. It was made that year, on the bed of the old York Road with stone, twenty feet wide and twelve inches in depth. To bring this turnpike to the grade required by law it was necessary to cut into this hill a considerable depth. Stone enough was thus procured here to make the road for several miles. Great blasts were made in the solid rock near the northern summit, one of which sent a rock of nearly a ton weight thirty yards into an adjoining field, and another fragment of about four hundred pounds was lodged in the branches of a large cherry-tree, where it hung suspended for five or six years some twenty-feet above the road surface, much to the astonishment of travelers. The rock appears to be exceedingly hard and of a bluish cast, streaked with white quartz interspersed with particles of glittering mica, being a granite of a trappean nature. Half way up the southern slope of the hill a vein of steatite or soapstone crosses the road, which on a more thorough investigation might prove valuable.

The bridge, at the northern base of the hill, and to which we have already made reference, was originally of wood, but in 1830 the county erected a substantial stone structure of one arch of fifteen feet span, which was completed the following year. The Turnpike Company in consequence of reducing the grade of the hill considerably enlarged the southern wing-walls, making it now about two hundred feet long. The filling here being some eighteen or twenty feet above the water has materially lessened the ascent. The day may not be far distant when this bridge will be further raised and filled up to the greater convenience of pedestrians and horses toiling under heavy loads. A number of fine springs of purest water abound. Several of these cross the pike on the southern side, but the largest, in fact the most considerable in this section of country, issues from its northern slope about one hundred yards southeast of the bridge. It is sufficiently strong to furnish an unfailing supply to a village. The stream after a mile's journey mingles its waters with the Pennypack. A venerable-looking milestone stood as late as 1850 on the eastern bank of the road-side, about forty yards up the hill from the present bridge, having cut on it "15 M. to P." It came away in making the turnpike and

it is a pity that it cannot be restored to near the same place. Most probably it may have done duty here for all of a century.

An interesting sight was witnessed on this hill on the morning of the 23d of August, 1777, being no less than the crossing of General Washington and his army, accompanied by a lengthy baggage and artillery train. They had just broken up their encampment at the Cross-Roads, near the present Hartsville, six miles from here, where they had been the previous two weeks waiting to hear of the landing of the British. They were now marching to Philadelphia, and from thence towards the enemy, whom they finally encountered on the fields of Brandywine.

Round Meadow.—Should almost any other in its vicinity than an antiquarian be asked as to the locality of this place, it is very possible that it would cause some perplexity. This was the original name given by the early settlers to a small stream flowing through the present Willow Grove, and also to an adjacent swamp in which it had its origin. It rises from a number of springs in Abington township, and after a course of about two and a half miles, in a northeasterly direction, empties into the Pennypack. The only power it at present affords is in propelling the grist-mill of Benjamin Morgan, which is situated half a mile from its mouth, and which was originally built by Thomas Parry in 1731. As a further resuscitation and preservation of the name the writer had Mr. Scott to so place it on the map of Moreland township in his invaluable County Atlas published in 1877.

The swamp must have once contained about one hundred and fifty acres, but by the continued progress of more than a century and a half in the settlement, improvement and cultivation of the soil, its area has been now reduced to less than twenty acres. This remaining portion has still growing on it huge bunches of tussock, calamus, several kinds of coarse sedge and carex grasses, besides a number of alder bushes and a few stunted red maples and sour gums. A part consists of a black peat bog of from six inches to four feet in depth, lying on a substratum of white clay. The peat is formed by a species of moss which grows only on the surface of the water, and as it decays beneath is slowly but constantly accumulating. Its rich black appearance often arrests the attention of observing individuals, especially farmers, in going to market over what was the plank road. On its southern edge cranberries are still found growing wild, and our oldest citizens have it from tradition that they are indigenous to the locality.

From the abundance and variety of beautiful wild flowers found growing here in autumn, young ladies collect them for bouquets and ornaments; and often, too, have they been known to grace the magnificent parlor vases of the city. Not only are attractions lavish here for the botanist, but also the zoologist; for to our knowledge several species of that somewhat

rare animal, the star-nosed mole, have here been captured. Muskrats abound, and nearly forty years ago built themselves neat and highly ingenious cabins. The sportsman shoots occasionally snipe and woodcock. And, alas! blackbirds still abound from spring to autumn, no doubt the veritable descendants of those whose ancestors lured several of the young men of this vicinity in the phantom pursuit of pleasure and gain, till they suddenly found themselves immersed in "a sea of troubles." From these casual glimpses it will be seen that Round Meadow is not devoid of interest to the naturalist, but that is not our particular object; for it is also invested with the charms of historical and traditionary associations that must be here only briefly touched upon.

William Penn, first proprietary and Governor of Pennsylvania, purchased June 7, 1684, of the Indian chief, Metamicon, all his title to the lands lying on both sides of the Pennypack, and which also comprised within its limits this section of country. With this conveyance probably hereabouts passed away all aboriginal claims, Nicholas More, a physician of London, having in 1682 purchased an extensive grant which was by the surveyor-general's order laid out August 1, 1684, as the "Manor of Moreland." The southwestern boundary line of this tract runs directly across Round Meadow, and divides it nearly in two equal portions, the most southern part of which is situated in Abington township. The title to this latter section was purchased in 1696 of Captain Thomas Holme, by John Hallowell, from Darby, below Philadelphia, who built a house or cave thereon about that time a mile to the southwest of the present Willow Grove. This purchase comprised six hundred acres, and there are now numerous descendants of the original owner living in the neighborhood.

As the country became more and more settled northward of the city, on application, the old York Road was laid out in November, 1711, from John Reading's landing, now Centre Bridge, on the Delaware, by way of this swamp and the present Jenkintown to Fourth and Vine Streets, Philadelphia. About this time a small wooden bridge was built over the stream here so as to permit an easier transit for wagons. Often, no doubt, as strangers have traveled up or down this ancient highway, they have wondered how it came to pass that it should be laid out through the Willow Grove as winding almost as the letter S. This was caused by the original miry nature of the ground and to secure the most solid surface for traveling purposes. Hence from going round the meadow to avoid the most treacherous places originated so appropriate a name.

In the Colonial Records of 1722, we read that at the recommendation of the governor, Sir William Keith, who had made a settlement and built himself a mansion in Horsham, a road was laid out from there that year by Nicholas Scull, by way of "the Meeting-House, and from thence to a small bridge,

commonly called Round Meadow Run, where it meets again the Abington or New York road." The bridge here we find thus mentioned several times, and it must have been so called between the years 1711 and 1720. The last mentioned road forms the lower portion of the present Doylestown and Willow Grove turnpike. We know that in 1734, if not some time earlier, James Dubree became the owner of one hundred and fifty acres of land in and around the Willow Grove, on the Moreland side, and which comprised all that portion of the swamp. One of his sons shortly after the Revolution erected a dam across the stream about eighty yards above the Round Meadow bridge, and had a race from the same to propel the machinery of a scythe factory. Though no traces of this establishment are now visible, the race still remains.

In 1803 the Cheltenham and Willow Grove turnpike company was chartered and made the following year at an average cost of eight thousand dollars per mile, on the bed of the old York Road. It is stated that at the Round Meadow bridge and for about the distance of three hundred yards towards the city it took an immense quantity of stones before it acquired its present stability. Aged men of the vicinity stated more than thirty years ago that they believed that the stones brought here had penetrated down from their weight and from the repeated irruptions of the water and the action of frost to a depth of from six to ten feet, to which since a considerable quantity has been added. This bed of stones is now from twenty-two to forty feet wide, and even within the last few years water has forced itself through, especially towards the latter end of winter and the beginning of spring. From tradition we learn that before the turnpike had been made the most miry and dangerous places were indicated by the ends of rails standing out, which had thus purposely been thrust in as a matter of precaution.

The Germantown and Willow Grove Plank Road and Turnpike was laid out and made in 1856-57, and commenced on the old York Road, a few yards above the Round Meadow bridge, crossing the Moreland and Abington line nearly at right angles. This road passes nearly through half its length, or about the distance of a full half mile in a southerly direction. Along this road there is much to interest a student of the natural sciences. In 1872 the North East Pennsylvania Railroad was laid out and completed through its eastern edge, and within a few years a public road opened on the township line. Newport's phosphate factory has also encroached somewhat on this domain so long assigned to the possession of muskrats, frogs, and its spring and summer sojourners, the black-birds, who have so long fed, fattened, feasted and rioted on the products of the neighboring fields.

Horseheaven.—This is the name given to one of the highest elevations in the vicinity of the Willow Grove, and it is situated on the east side of the York

Road turnpike, with Round Meadow Run washing its northern boundary. Approach the village from whatever course you may, it looms up boldly before you in all its majestic grandeur. Its northern and eastern sides are still covered with forest, and a portion of its summit is crowned with the perpetual verdure of red cedar. A strip of cultivated land extends over its centre from south to northeast, giving it the appearance of two parts. We can therefore say that it is of tolerably steep ascent, with a somewhat level summit, elevated probably about three hundred feet above the waters of the Pennypack, a mile distant. As might be expected, it affords a magnificent view of the surrounding country. The eminences of Valley Forge, Germantown, Trenton and Whitmarsh revive patriotic recollections. The blue hills of New Jersey can be traced towards the northeast, east and southeast for thirty or forty miles. Buckingham Mountain, though twelve miles off, appears quite near. The hills of the Delaware, the Schuylkill and Neshaminy can be traced for a considerable distance, while nearer at hand are the lesser eminences of Edge Hill, Camp Hill, Church Hill and Huckleberry Hill. Among the towns and villages readily discernible are Frankford, Germantown, Chestnut Hill, Barren Hill, Flourtown, Jenkintown and Hatboro'. The river Delaware, for several miles above Philadelphia, with its steamboats and sailing-vessels, can be seen with the naked eye on any clear day.

This hill has received its somewhat singular name from peculiar circumstances. Near the close of the last century several lines of stages were established between Philadelphia, Bethlehem and Easton; also to New York, by way of Lambertville. Willow Grove, being thirteen miles north of Philadelphia, was readily adopted, from its convenient position, as the first suitable place for changing the horses of the several lines, and was generally retained for nearly half a century, or, in fact, till railroads caused their discontinuance. These being nearly all four-horse coaches, and there being but few or no turnpikes, caused, particularly from the condition of the roads, considerable damage to the horses. When these died, or were dispatched on account of age or other infirmities, their bodies were universally consigned to the northern declivity of the hill. Thus it became the stage-horse's final rest, from whence originated the name of Horseheaven. Several fine springs of water gush from out the hill-side, and in the Willow Grove furnish an unfailing supply to several fountains. On the north, northeast and west sides these flow into Round Meadow Run, which in less than two miles distance empties into the Pennypack. On the southeast side they give rise to Tearwood Run, another branch of the latter stream. Sandy Run has its origin from several springs on the south side. This is a trout stream and a branch of the Wissahickon. It will be observed that this hill forms a kind of dividing ridge, and that its waters flow into both the Delaware and Schuylkill.

On the bold summit of Horseheaven, in the summers of 1840 and 1841, Ferdinand Hassler, superintendent of the United States Coast Survey, and his assistants were encamped. They had here a superior collection of instruments and a signal station, communicating with similar ones at Mount Holly and Woodbury, N. J., Langhorne, Girard College and one or two in Delaware County. To facilitate these communications several openings had to be cut here through the woods in several directions. These remained visible for a number of years afterwards. The following anecdote was related concerning the cutting down of this timber: Mr. Hassler directed his assistants to cut away these trees wherever they were found to interfere with the progress of the work, and for damages the land-holders must look to him. There then resided in the neighborhood two farmers, whose lands and wealth were chiefly acquired by inheritance. They were both regarded as among our most respectable, upright and virtuous citizens. When Mr. Hassler had made every arrangement for his final departure, he waited on those men and asked the amount of damages they claimed; each one, strange to say, said he would leave it to his judgment. As he thought their damages were about the same, he awarded each a similar sum. When one of them received it, he declined taking more than one-half, saying that amount amply remunerated him. The other complained of his award, desiring double the amount, which was paid him.

Henry D. Rogers, afterwards professor of natural history in the University of Glasgow, but now for some time deceased, while engaged on the geological survey of the State in the summer of 1851, made his investigations of this hill and the neighboring country. In the first volume of his work may be seen a sectional view of its structure and stratification, and he mentions therein that the primeval rocks lean at a moderate angle upon the gneiss. "Here," he says, "upon the northern slope and end of this hill the fragments of the sandstone contain numerous vestiges of *scolithus linearis*, the fossil characteristic of the white primeval sandstone." He stated that the stone here was identical with that in Edge Hill, and of course belonged to the same formation. Fragments of quartz are found scattered more or less over its surface. Near Round Meadow Run, on its northern declivity, are several mineral springs, indicating the presence of iron-ore, which is now being obtained in abundance at about a mile's distance towards the west.

To the student of nature this hill offers a number of attractions. Gray squirrels, ground squirrels, flying squirrels, weasels, rabbits and opossums abound. The wood robin, the brown thrasher, the chewink, the catbird, the scarlet tanager, the golden-crowned thrush, the jay, and, above all, the crow, are partial to its woods. In the spring of 1852 it was supposed a pair of eagles had a nest somewhere in

the vicinity of the rocks. They were seen hovering in the air and about here for several months. Wild pigeons formerly resorted to this hill and bred here in great numbers. This was particularly the case previous to the year 1810. In the spring and fall sometimes so many would be caught in nets as to require horses and wagons to haul them away. The last probably thus caught in this section of country was about 1844, and but few were taken. To a lover of botany this hill invites attention. Here grow indigenous the white, red, black, chestnut, Spanish, pin and post oaks, black and white walnuts, several kinds of hickory, maple, elm, gum, poplar and dogwood, besides beech, sassafras, mulberry, wild cherry, Juneberry, red cedar and witch-hazel, whortleberries of different kinds and bearing red, black and blue fruit. The laurel in June is seen whitened over with its magnificent flowers. Dittany, or mountain mint, flourishes abundantly, from which, in the olden times, the people made tea. Spicy wintergreen or teaberry also grows here,—a somewhat rare plant in this section of Pennsylvania. The mountain spikenard luxuriates amidst the crevices of the rocks. As respects its vegetable treasures, they would take up too much space to name in detail.

Our first acquaintance with this hill and its neighborhood began in 1842, and since that time it has become sufficiently endeared by its memories to thus record a few observations. Heretofore our writers have been too much led to believe through the influence of European authors, that our local scenery is too barren in historical and traditionary associations to be invested with the additional charms that literature could bestow. By standing on the summit of Horseheaven and gazing over the beautiful prospect there will something arise that denies such a charge. Near may be seen Round Meadow, Huckleberry Hill and the valley of Southampton Run, where John Fitch first tried his model steamboat. Then around here dwelt the Indians, by yonder stream wandered the Swedes, on the hills and valleys of North and Southampton settled the Dutch, at Warwick the Irish, at Gwynedd the Welsh, at Germantown the Germans, at Horsham Sir William Keith and his Scotch associates, and in Abington and Moreland the English Quakers. Many spots and eminences that have witnessed the valiant struggles and sufferings of a people in the sacred cause of freedom,—of a Washington and his brave copatriots, are in view. Are all these, with the associations that linger around each, devoid of interest?

Although this subject has been lengthened beyond what was contemplated, there is much unsaid respecting Horseheaven. Many a ramble during the heats of summer has been taken over its summit while the cool and invigorating breezes were playing around. Often, too, in early spring have the swelling buds and blossoms been impatiently watched while meditating on the resumption of their foliage. Again in autumn would be observed their various hues and the depar-

ture of their foliage as they stood at last divested of their summer robes. But, like ourselves, Horseheaven is getting older and changed; his top, though it was once well covered, is getting bald, the furrows on his brow are becoming numerous and deeper, and his former life is imperceptibly leaving him. Across his northern slope, since 1882, the iron horse prances, and his shrill snortings betoken the changes of time.

ASSESSMENT OF MORELAND FOR 1776.

John Swift, assessor, and John Wynkoop, collector.

Jacob Rush, 25 acres, 2 horses, 3 cows; Samuel Shoemaker, tanner, 75 a., and tan-yard, 4 h., 2 c.; John Gilbert, 77 a., 1 negro, 2 h., 3 c., a cripple; Isaac Bond, 3 a.; Peter Bowman, 1 h., 1 c.; John Tompkins, inn-keeper, 1 h., 2 c.; Jacob Tompkins, shop-keeper, 56 a., 2 h., 3 c.; David Marpole, 98 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Enoch Marpole, 1 h.; Clement Dungan, doctor, 1 servant, 3 h., 3 c.; Samuel Irwin, Esq., 209 a., 1 negro, 4 h., 5 c.; Andrew Van Buskirk, 140 a., 1 negro, 2 h., 4 c.; William Scout, 9 a., 1 h., 2 c., infirm; Joseph Bond, 3 h., 4 c.; George Shilletts, John Dorland, 1 c.; Isaac Boileau, 200 a., 1 negro, 4 h., 8 c.; John Fisher, 1 c.; Michael Riderpoke, 15 a., 1 servant, 3 h., 4 c.; John Rhode, 1 servant, 2 h., 3 c.; Peter Souerman; George Foster, 2 h., 3 c.; Lawrence Sentman, 100 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 5 c.; Mary Kirk, widow, 80 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Nathaniel Sands, 3 h., 3 c.; John Wynkoop, 212 a., 1 negro, 5 h., 5 c.; Garret Van Buskirk, 186 a., 4 h., 5 c.; John Hogeland, 1 negro, 260 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Thomas Walton, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c., old and decrepid; Nathaniel Walton, 30 a., 2 h., 1 c.; John Heet, 3 h., 4 c.; John Blacklye, 140 a., 1 servant, 3 h., 3 c.; John Lewis, 1 c.; Jonathan Clayton, 150 a., 5 h., 5 c.; Richard Corson, 20 a., 1 negro, 2 h., 4 c.; James Dyer, 253 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Joseph Lewis, 1 h.; John Lloyd, 150 a., 1 h., 9 c.; Benjamin Lloyd, 1 h.; Samuel Lloyd, 4 h., 4 c.; Thomas Lloyd, Sr., 1 h.; Esther Perry, widow, 60 a., 1 h., 2 c.; David Perry, 36 a., 2 h., 2 c., 1 negro; Samuel Shoemaker, mason, 100 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Jeremiah Walton, 48 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John More, 1 h., 1 c.; Edward Eaton, 44 a., 2 h., 2 c.; William Folwell, 190 a., 1 negro, 3 h., 5 c.; Joseph Folwell, 2 h., 3 c.; Mordecai Thomas, smith, 90 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Isaac Longstreth, tanner, 9 a., 2 h., 1 c.; John Engle, 2 h., 2 c.; John Sommers, 98 a., 2 servants, 3 h., 5 c.; Abel Walton, 33 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Henry Walton, 67 a., 2 h., 1 c.; John Vanhorn, 1 c.; Nicholas Randal, 5 h., 5 c.; Comly Randal, 1 h.; Peter Vanhorn, 1 h., 1 c.; Jacob Comly, inn-keeper, 18 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Joseph Comly, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Swift, 205 a., 1 servant, 1 negro, 1 h., 7 c.; Samuel Swift, doctor, 150 a., 2 negroes, 4 h., 7 c.; Samuel Swift, Jr., 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Daniel Street, 1 c.; John Blake, joiner, 26 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Burk, 1 servant; Albertson Walton, 70 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Philip Crips, cooper, 4 a., 1 c.; James Willard, 4 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Derrick Krewson, 4 h., 4 c.; William Tillyer, 200 a., 1 negro, 5 h., 5 c.; Peter Stickler, 52 a., in Lower Dublin; Isaac Stoltz, mason, 1 c.; Rachel Robertson, 70 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Abraham Lewis; John Boucher, 200 a., 5 h., 4 c.; Joseph Boucher, 2 h., 2 c.; Samuel Boucher, 200 a., 2 negroes, 3 h., 8 c.; William Roberts, 200 a., 1 h., 1 c.; William Roberts, Jr., 11 a., 1 negro, 3 h., 3 c.; Thomas King, 47 a., 2 h., 1 c., has eight children; Timothy Roberts, 1 negro, 3 h., 3 c.; Jacob Johnson, 1 c.; James McGill, 4 a., 1 c.; Elias Yerkes, 1 h., 2 c.; Bernard Ideman, 2 h., 3 c.; James Harker, 1 c.; Casper Taylor; Thomas Austin, 140 a., 3 h., 4 c., grist-mill; Isaac Cadwallader, smith, 70 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Moses Vancourt, inn-keeper, 120 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Daniel Vancourt; Samuel Ayers, 4 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Isaac Roberts, 30 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Elisha Thomas; Abel Marpole, 1 h., 1 c.; Casper Feters, 250 a., 1 negro, 5 h., 8 c.; Anthony Yerkes, 230 a., 3 h., 7 c., son a cripple; Jacob Yerkes, 1 h., 1 c.; Anthony Yerkes, Jr., 2 h., 2 c.; Anthony McNeal, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Spencer, 147 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Caleb Davis, 55 a., 1 h., 2 c., 7 children; John Morgan, 1 h., 1 c.; Jarret Spencer, 70 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Thomas Hallowell, 125 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Jacob Dubree, 39 a., 2 h., 2 c.; William Dubree, 2 c.; Luke Boileau, 2 c.; Daniel Ragen, 47 a., 2 h., 2 c., a grist-mill; Alexander Maria, 4 h.; Benjamin Tomlinson, 1 c.; Robert Barnes, 75 a., 1 negro, 1 h.; Jeremiah Walton, 188 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Rachel Dubree, widow, 1 c.; Abraham Bennet, 2 h., 2 c.; William Shoemaker, 119 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Colin McSwine, 100 a., 1 servant, 1 h., 2 c.; Joseph Hart, Esq., 40 a., 2 c., grist-mill; Josiah Yerkes, 6 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Silas Yerkes, 100 a., 3 h., 5 c., grist-mill, 9 children and 1 idiot; John Nesmith, 60 a., 2 h., 2 c., grist and saw-mill; William Patterson; Robert Little, 25 a., 1 c.; John Kennedy; William Littleton, 200 a., 1 negro, 4 h., 7 c.; Elias Yerkes, 150 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Joseph Butler, 2 h., 2 c.; Thomas Michenor, 160 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Thomas Walton, 220 a., 3 h., 5 c.; John Wood, 90 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Thomas

Wood, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Stephen Yerkes, 150 a., 4 h., 4 c.; David Fulton, 20 a., 2 h., 2 c., grist-mill; Sarah James, widow, 88 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Ramsey, 40 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Ledyard, 60 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Thomas Ledyard, 40 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Cook, enlisted; John Foster; James Fulton, 24 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Daniel Boileau, 67 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Jacob James, 148 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Garret Wynkoop, 340 a., 1 negro, 4 h., 5 c.; Joseph Keen, Joshua Comly, 125 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Jonathan Comly, 105 a., 3 h., 3 c.; John Lufboro, 130 a., 1 negro, 3 h., 4 c.; Joseph Foster; Daniel Thomas, 73 a., 1 negro, 2 h., 2 c.; Jesse Edwards; Thomas Lloyd, Jr., joiner, 20 a., 2 h., 3 c.; David Hallowell; Matthew Hallowell; Henry Brous, 1 h., 1 c.; James Vansant, 21 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Hezekiah Vansant, 2 a., 1 c.; George George; Charles Heterich, 1 h., 3 c.; William Collins, 28 a.; Jacob Timbrel, 1 h., 1 c.; Thomas Doughty, 1 h.; Lambert Dorland, 2 a.; Thomas Pennington, 130 a., 4 h., 7 c.; Jonathan Martin; Cornelius Daily, 3 h., 2 c.; Lawrence Loudemberger, 1 h., 2 c.; Joseph Comely, 1 c.; Robert Field, turner, 1 h., 1 c.; Abel Fitzwater, 1 h., 1 c.; William Lukens, John Jones, 2 h., 1 c.; Charles McVaugh, 1 c.; Thomas Boor; John Hillings; George Trunk, 1 h., 1 c.; Joseph Duffield, 46 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Isaac Dorland, William Walton, 5 h., 3 c.; Henry Murfits, 1 h., 1 c.; William Walton; Anthony Ships; Jacob Warner; Jacob Vanpelt; Isaac Warner, 19 a., 2 h., 2 c., grist and saw-mill; Joseph Mitchell, 80 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Thomas Mitchell; Jonathan Richardson, 1 h., 1 c.; James Craven, 70 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Richard Whitton, 163 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Paul Rust, 2 h., 2 c.; John McCullough; Stephen Love, mason; Edward Barnes; William Williamson; Andrew Bartle; Joseph Brooks, 1 c.; James Watkins, Edward Duffield, 500 a., 1 servant, 1 negro, 2 h., 4 c.; William Purdy, Henry Deshong, 1 servant, 2 h., 3 c.; Michael Warner; George Nevil, 1 h.; Hugh McClure, William McNeil. *Single Men.*—John Erwin, George Patrick, William Gilbert, Jonathan Gilbert, John Gilbert, Thomas Nixon, Jacob Marpole, Isaac Marpole, Yost Van Buskirk, John Van Buskirk, Joseph Dyer, Thomas Perry, Peter Shoemaker, Edward Farmer, William Adams, Periden Ernst Peterson, James Street, Benjamin Heaton, Alexander Burk, Derrick Krewson, John Boucher, Jr. John Murray, John Mc Ginnes, Robert Austin, George Stoneback, Josiah Hart, Harman Yerkes, John Davis, Nicholas Austin.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOHN WALTON.

John Walton was born September 10, 1796, and at a very early period in life was left an orphan, and went to live with an uncle, Samuel Walton, one of the pioneers of what is now Montgomery County. Of his early life but little, if anything, of interest is known beyond the fact that he was industrious, and his moral and upright bearing a model for other young men. Dependent entirely upon his own resources, he started out to fight the battles of life, and by his indomitable energy overcame obstacles that to a less courageous nature would have been insurmountable.

In 1831 he purchased of James Comly the farm and merchant mill owned by him at his death. The mill was known throughout this vicinity as "Walton's Mill," and the farm, for the beauty and picturesqueness of the location of the old mansion, was, and is still known by the name of "Hill's Highlands." This farm and mill lot was formerly a part of a grant of land from William Penn, to Nicolas More, and by him named the "Manor of Moreland," from which the present township of Moreland derived its name. This grant was made October 17, 1681. June 7, 1684, William Penn, for reasons not known, made a second grant to Nicolas More, of nine thousand eight hundred and fifteen acres of land, as a part of

the ten thousand acre tract. Probably a shortage was found when the survey was made.

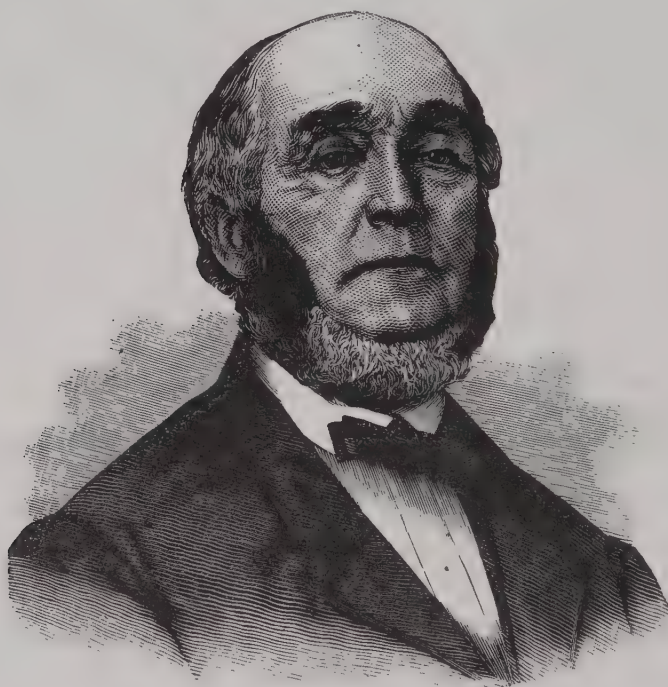
The next owner of the tract was Samuel, son of Nicolas More, and one of six heirs. November 6, 1694, Samuel More empowered his father-in-law, John Holmes, to sell so much of the estate as would pay his debts, and in the same year (1694) bequeathed to his brother Nicolas and sister Sarah the balance of his property. Sarah married Richard Hill, Sr., and in 1713, Nicolas More transferred all his right in the estate to Richard Hill, Sr.

In 1729, Richard Hill, Sr., bequeathed the property to Richard Hill, Jr., and in 1749, Richard Hill, Jr.,

ages, having stood for nearly or quite a century, when, in 1849, Mr. Walton removed the old house, and in 1849-50 erected the present stately mansion, where he so pleasantly spent the remainder of his days. In 1851 he rebuilt the grist-mill.

Of Mr. Walton's career a friend who knew him well thus writes: "Every year of his long life was spent in our midst,—an open book which all might read; no obscure passages nor sealed pages to kindle doubt or arouse distrust; and it has been the privilege of few men to win true affection and esteem from their immediate associates."

"Square-dealing and sincere, genial and generous, his



John M. Walton

transferred sixty-one acres to Thomas Austin. Upon this sixty-one acres was the old manor-house, known as "Hill's Highlands."

November 13, 1747, Samuel Butcher and wife sold to this same Thomas Austin a part of their three hundred and fifty acre tract, and Thomas Austin (who was Mrs. Walton's great-uncle) sold to Joshua Comly, who bequeathed the same to his son, James Comly, and he subsequently sold the same to John Walton, the subject of this sketch.

The old mansion or farm-house stood just on the brow of the hill, partly in front of the present dwelling. It was one of those quaint old relics of past

personal integrity and warm social qualities awakened and held the respect and friendship of two generations.

"Public-spirited and progressive, he was closely identified with the development and improvement of his neighborhood.

"Often the projector and always the earnest advocate of every worthy enterprise tending to promote its growth and advancement, he never failed to contribute material assistance, not only of his time and means, but no less by the inspiration of his enthusiasm and the confidence infused by his clear discernment and firm faith in the future possibilities of his native vale.

"Notwithstanding the engrossing nature of his business, his mind and hands were never so fully occupied with selfish interests but he found time to remember his neighbor; to respond to every appeal, to visit him in sickness and distress; to honor his inanimate form with the last tribute of respect. Positive in his opinions, true in purpose, unfaltering and steadfast in right, he has gone to receive the reward of those faithful servants who have been true to their trust of life."

In religious affairs Mr. Walton was a Friend, and in politics a Henry Clay Whig. In business habits he was ever zealous in the performance of every con-

The first record we have of any of that name is of Anthony Woodward (2nd), who, in some deeds dated as early as 1725, is styled "Yeoman," and in others "Gentleman." He located near Bordentown, N. J., and died in October, 1784, leaving five sons,—Israel, Anthony, Thomas, Joseph, George, and a daughter, Margaret. Of these sons, Anthony was the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and married Deborah Williams, of Shrewsbury, N. J. George, a son of the last-named Anthony, was born in 1744, and died December 25, 1817, aged seventy-three years. He married Margaret Mount in 1777. She was born near Middletown, Monmouth Co.,



Evan M. Woodward

tract, whether verbal or written, and until within a year of his death was actively engaged in the transaction of his every-day affairs. He was married, Third Month 8, 1832, to Miss Sarah, daughter of Elisha Thomas and grand-daughter of Joshua Comly. She was connected also with the pioneer Austin family, of what is now Huntingdon Valley. Mr. Walton died Fifth Month 26, 1884, the result of an accident. Mrs. Walton died Ninth Month 29, 1872. They were the parents of six children,—Mary (died in January, 1835,) Eliza C., Charles, Susan O., Anna F. and Henry Clay.

MAJOR EVAN M. WOODWARD.

Major Evan M. Woodward is a descendant of the Woodward family, who first settled in New Jersey.

N. J., in 1756, and died at White Hill, on the Delaware, May 4, 1830, aged seventy-four years. Of this marriage we find the following minute in the Friends' record: Fourth Month 5, 1781, "The friends appointed report they informed George Woodward of the charges against him, he having married contrary to Discipline to a woman not in membership with us; the said friends informed he was married by a priest, therefore this meeting disowns him, the said George Woodward, from being a member of our religious society, until he comes to a sense of his errors and condemns the same as Discipline directs."

This Margaret Mount was of a patriotic family, not less than fifteen of her relations serving in the Revolutionary war. Her brother, Colonel Timothy Mount,

was one of Washington's most trusted confidential agents, he receiving from him a letter stating he had "rendered most important services in the cause," in recognition of which Congress granted him a large tract of land in Ohio.

It is traditional of Colonel Mount that he formed a daring plot to seize General Arnold in New York and carry him into our lines. For this purpose he entered the city in disguise, and obtained a situation as bar-tender at the tavern frequented by the general and other British officers. Two nights were fixed upon to carry the scheme into execution, his confederates, shoremen from Monmouth County, N. J., coming over in a large and swift barge to assist and carry the prisoner across the bay. A dinner-party upon one occasion and a severe storm upon another frustrated their designs.

The country around Middletown and Shrewsbury was filled with partisans, with Tories and Whigs, active and bitter in their hostilities. The patriots were continually receiving information of the British, and suspicion was created that Margaret Mount was one of the mediums through which it was conveyed. One night a party of British and Tory horsemen went to her father's house, searched her bed and discovered a letter she was to deliver to the patriots the next morning. She and the young lady friend who brought the letter were taken prisoners and carried away. The next night they escaped from the house in which they were confined, and concealing themselves in a corn-field, eluded the pursuit of the British cavalry. Margaret, fearing to return home, was concealed by her friends till the enemy left the country. It was during this period that she met her future husband, George Woodward.

They had children,—Lydia, who married William Woodhouse, a merchant of Philadelphia; Margaret, who married Jacob Sebohm, also a merchant of that city; and George.

Of these children, George moved to Moreland township, Montgomery Co., where he married Margaret Wynkoop, and in 1854 went to Kansas, where he was killed. The sons of George and Margaret were Timothy M., who lives in Philadelphia; Charles, a resident of Philadelphia; James, resides in Camden, N. J.; Wynkoop, deceased; Martha; Mary; Rebecca Anna; Anna, who married William Schallcross, of Maryland; and Evan M., who was born March 16, 1813, on the old homestead, which he now owns, adjoining the one upon which he lives.

The whole life of Evan M., except a few short intervals, has thus far been spent upon these two farms, pleasantly located on the table-land, about two miles west from Somerton Station, on the Bound Brook Branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad.

Besides attending to the duties pertaining to a large plantation, Major Woodward (as he is popularly known) has visited several of the States of the Union and thus become conversant with the prominent men

of the country, and familiar with all the prominent points of interest. He is also the owner of two tracts of land, of twelve hundred acres each, in Mecklenburg County, Va. Since Major Woodward attained his majority he has been prominently identified with all the progressive movements of his township. Politically he was a Henry Clay Whig, then a Douglas Democrat, and both during and since the war of 1861-65, has been a staunch and unyielding Republican, several times leading a forlorn hope as its standard-bearer in legislative contests. He has been honored by his townsmen with official positions, and for twenty years with that of justice of the peace.

He was married, March 7, 1838, to Miss Margaret Snyder, who was born May 6, 1814, in Montgomery County. They are the parents of two children,—Sarah S., born November 18, 1839, died March 5, 1841; Harrison, born January 20, 1842. Harrison's life thus far has been spent upon the old homestead, except that portion spent at Eastman's Business College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., from which institution he graduated April 9, 1864. He has also taken a prominent part in the politics of the township, and was elected by the Republicans, in the spring of 1882, to the office of justice of the peace for a term of five years. He was married, January 5, 1870, to Miss Rebecca A. Clayton, of Montgomery County. The result of this union has been four children,—Clara, born July 18, 1871, died April 10, 1879; Mary Elizabeth, born August 4, 1873; Justus C., born August 26, 1876, died March 10, 1879; Frank H., born April 2, 1880.

JEREMIAH BERRELL LARZELERE.

Jeremiah Berrell Larzelere, of Moreland township, Montgomery Co., comes of Huguenot stock. The famous Edict of Nantes, signed by Henry IV., of France, April, 1598, gave religious freedom to all parties. Eighty-seven years later Louis XIV., for political reasons, revoked it, October 22, 1685, and by the persecutions which followed France lost a half-million of her best and sturdiest citizens. They fled to Germany, England, Scotland and North Ireland. Many families came to the colony of South Carolina, and from these Huguenots the South Carolinians inherited largely their intelligence, wealth, dauntless courage and political power. Both Calhoun and Hayne were of Huguenot blood.

Among the Huguenot pilgrims who fled the persecutions of France in the latter part of the seventeenth century were Nicholas and John Larzelere, who settled on Long Island. Nicholas subsequently moved to Staten Island, where he married and raised a family of four children; two sons, Nicholas and John, and two daughters. In 1741, Nicholas, the younger, moved with his family to Bucks County, Pa., and settled in Lower Makefield township. He raised eight children, died at the age of eighty-four,

and was buried in the Episcopal graveyard at Bristol. The eldest son of the second Nicholas was also named Nicholas, and was born on Staten Island in 1734. He married Hannah Britton, of Bristol township, and moved into Bensalem, where he owned a large estate, and raised a family of ten children; he fought in the Revolution and died at the age of eighty-four. Benjamin, the eldest son, married Sarah Brown, of Bristol, moved into that township, had eight children and died at eighty-four. Part of Bristol is built on his farm.

The eldest son of Benjamin was Nicholas, who was

dence in Ohio, has always lived in Montgomery County. In 1858 he married Elmina, daughter of James Lovett, of Doylestown, Bucks Co., who died in 1874, and in 1876 he was again married, to Carrie E., daughter of Dilworth Wentz, late of Philadelphia, deceased. He had a family of seven children, all of whom are living save one.

Inheriting the strength and health of his ancestors, he is now in the prime of life and in the midst of a busy and active career. At the age of eighteen he taught school in Horsham. United with his large agricultural interests, he has for many years been ex-



J. B. Langelier

the father of the subject of the present sketch. Nicholas married Esther, daughter of Col. Jeremiah Berrell, of Abington, and moved into that township about the year 1825, and lived in that township and Moreland the balance of his life. He reared a family of twelve children, all of whom are living excepting one. Nicholas died in the year 1858, at the age of sixty-seven, and was buried at the Presbyterian graveyard at Abington. His widow still survives him at the advanced age of eighty-two.

Jeremiah was the third son of Nicholas, and was born in 1828, and, with the exception of a short resi-

tensively engaged in the shipment and sale of livestock from the Western States. Among the projectors of the North East Pennsylvania Railroad, which was opened in 1870, he became a director, and remained such until it passed by lease into the possession of the Reading Railroad. The position of school and bank director he has held for years.

Notwithstanding the taxation of his energies in business, he has always found time to take an active part in politics, and is naturally fond of a contest for honors. A pupil of the old Jeffersonian school of politics, he has, nevertheless, kept abreast with the

advanced and progressive ideas of the better element of his party. In 1871, selected as the candidate of his party for sheriff, he was elected by upwards of a thousand majority, and received the highest number of votes on the ticket. This office he held from January, 1872, until January, 1875, and administered its arduous and responsible duties to the eminent satisfaction of all. It may be said that in disposition, generous and benevolent, he has endeared himself to many, who, in darkest hours, have found in him the friend they needed. No higher test of character is required than the esteem in which one is held by his neighbors.

his son, John J., where he died December 22, 1856. His wife, born May 5, 1781, and died June 26, 1867, was Mary, daughter of the late William Jarrett, of Horsham township. Mr. Hallowell was, for over half a century, proprietor of the Pennypack Mills, and was well and favorably known for his uprightness of character and fair dealing with his fellow-men. His heart and hand were always open to the demands of charity. He died as he had lived, a purely Christian gentleman, loved while he lived, and by all who knew him mourned in death. He was the father of a highly-respected family, who are following closely in the path of Christian duty marked out by their honored sire.



Jonas W. Hallowell

THE HALLOWELL FAMILY.

The Hallowell family was among the pioneer settlers along the Pennypack Valley, locating at what is now known as the Pennypack Mills, Abington township, in the early part of the last century. At that place was born, in 1777, Israel Hallowell, father of Jonas W., of Huntingdon Valley; John J. and W. Jarrett, of Pennypack Mills, also of the late Israel Hallowell, Jr. Mr. Hallowell, Sr., grew to manhood on the old homestead, became the owner of the mills, and lived, until within a few years of his death, in the house where he was born. A few years prior to his death he removed to the dwelling now occupied by

He was all his life a member of Abington Friends' Meeting, and during the latter part of his life an elder in that society.

JONAS W. HALLOWELL.

Jonas W. Hallowell, son of Israel and Mary Hallowell, was born at Pennypack Mills, Abington township, April 10, 1824. His early life was spent at the old log school-house, on his father's farm, and assisting in the merchant mill owned by his father. In 1838 or 1839 he was employed one year in the dry-goods store of Lippincott & Parry, then one of the old business-houses of Philadelphia. In the latter part



Ismael Hallowell

of 1840 and early part of 1841 he attended the academy of Benjamin Hallowell, of Alexandria, Va., in all about six months. Upon his return from school he entered into copartnership with his brother, W. Jarrett, in the milling business, in the old Pennypack Mill, where he remained till 1860, when he located on the farm now owned and occupied by him, it being a part of his father's landed estate. The farm is pleasantly located along the creek, in Huntingdon Valley, on either side of the Philadelphia, Newtown and New York Railroad, the station being on the farm, and Bethayres Station, on the North Pennsylvania and Bound Brook, being but a half-mile distant.

Positions of honor or trust Mr. Hallowell has never sought, yet his neighbors have entrusted him with the honors of school director continuously since 1871, and the directors and stockholders of the Fox Chase and Huntingdon Turnpike Company have imposed upon him the burdens of treasurer of that corporation since 1871. Religiously, Mr. Hallowell is a Friend, not only in name, but in deed, always practicing the golden rule in all his business transactions.

He was married, April 7, 1859, to Esther L., daughter of James and Ann L. Fenton, of Abington township. Their children are Israel, born March 31, 1863; James F., born January 24, 1865; John J., Jr., born March 2, 1868.

James Fenton, father of Mrs. Hallowell, was one of eight brothers, all of whom lived to old age, none of them less than seventy-four years, and none over eighty years of age, and James at the age of seventy-eight years. He was for a number of years one of the directors of the Fox Chase Turnpike Company, and was prominently identified with other enterprises of the vicinity in which he lived, and highly respected and loved by all who came in contact with him in a business capacity, and was a member of Abington Monthly Meeting, Society of Friends. He owned the two farms now occupied by his two sons, Ephraim and William, at what is known as Fenton Station, on the Philadelphia and Newtown Railroad.

Mrs. Hallowell's grandfather, Anthony Livsey, was a resident of the locality known as Fox Chase, and owned the farm now owned and occupied by George Rhawn. Her grandmother's maiden-name was Esther Bailey.

ISRAEL HALLOWELL.

Israel Hallowell was a native of Abington township and the son of Israel and Mary Hallowell, and was born Second Month 18, 1819, on the old Hallowell homestead, at Pennypack Mills. His earlier years were spent at home on his father's farm and as an assistant in his father's merchant mill, now owned by W. Jarrett Hallowell. His education was derived from the common schools, or, rather, what was known at that time as "pay-school." After arriving at a suitable age he was sent to Benjamin Hallowell's academy at Alexandria, Va. He then entered into

partnership with his brother, W. Jarrett, in the milling business, at the old Pennypack Mills, where he remained till about 1848, when he sold his interest in the mill to his brother, and devoted his entire time to the management and cultivation of the farm in Moreland township (now occupied by his widow, Rebecca, and son, Henry W.) until 1855, when he became afflicted with the loss of his eyesight, which incapacitated him for the labors of the farm. He died Fourth Month 16, 1862, in the forty-third year of his age. While in active life Mr. Hallowell was, in all his dealings with his fellow-men, strictly honorable, and was highly respected by all who knew him. In him the poor of the community lost a friend on whom they could always rely in their sorest times of need. He was truly a good man, and suffered his affliction with Christian fortitude and patience, without a murmur of complaint. He was a birthright member of the Society of Friends. He was married, Fifth Month 19, 1842, to Rebecca, daughter of Anthony and Elizabeth Williams, of Cheltenham township. Rebecca Hallowell was born Third Month 6, 1822, and is still living on the old homestead. They were the parents of two children, Mary Anna and Henry W. Henry W. married, October 11, 1871, Margaret T., daughter of John and Caroline Thomson. He still resides on and manages the homestead farm, upon which he was born.

SIMON V. LEFFERTS.

Simon V. Lefferts, one of the prominent agriculturalists of Moreland township, is a descendant of one of the pioneer families who located on what is now Long Island, N. Y., over two centuries ago, as will be seen by the following brief genealogical sketch:

I. Lefferts Pieteron, a native of the village of Haughwort, located one and a half hours north of Hoorne, in the province of North Holland, emigrated to this country in 1660. With him, came a congregation of about two hundred souls, of whom forty were members of the church of the Reformed religion. Lefferts settled in Midwout, or what is now Flatbush, Long Island, N. Y., where he died December 8, 1704. His wife was Abigail, daughter of Auk Jans Van Nuyse. She bore him thirteen children, and died at the advanced age of ninety-five years. Of the children, six were sons, and seven daughters. The aggregate age of five of the sons was four hundred and ninety-six years. One of the brothers married at the good old age of one hundred years, and lived six years after, in perfect health.

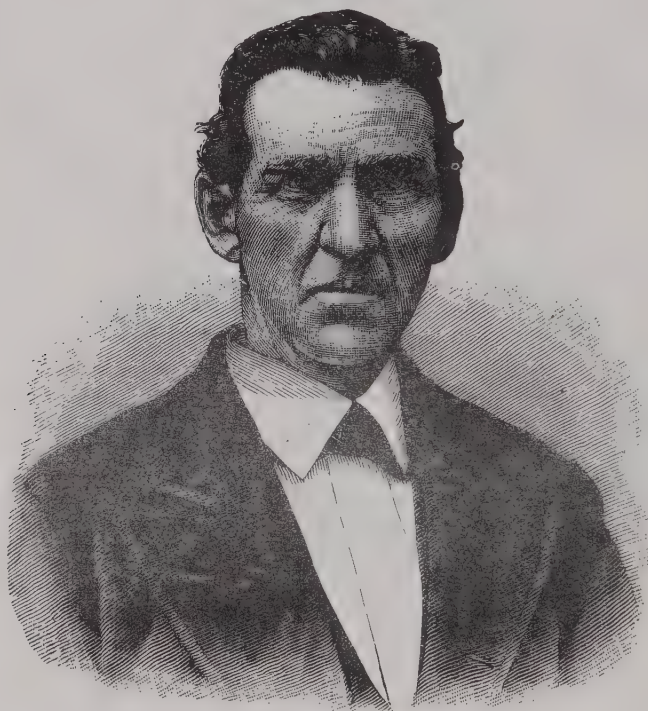
II. The third child of Lefferts and Abigail was Pieter Lefferts, from whence sprang the Lefferts family of Moreland township. Pieter was born May 18, 1680, in Flatbush, L. I., and died March 13, 1774. His wife was Ida, daughter of Hendrick Suydam, of Flatbush. She died September 25, 1777. Her six sisters were aged, respectively, seventy-nine, seventy-five, seventy-three, sixty-eight, sixty-four and sixty-

three. Pieter was an elder in the Reformed Church in 1752, and probably to the day of his death.

III. The next in direct line to Simon V. was Leffert Lefferts, the date of whose birth is not on record, but who died probably soon after October 6, 1773, the date of his will. His wife was Antie, daughter of Art Vanderbilt, of Flatbush, a farmer by occupation. In 1738, Leffert Lefferts, in company with others, visited Bucks County, Pa., on a prospecting tour, and in 1739, Leffert purchased a tract of four hundred acres of land in Northampton township, Bucks Co. This was a part of the six hundred and thirty-one acre tract granted by William Penn to Edmund Pen-

V. John Lefferts (father of Simon V.) was born March 14, 1784, and on December 23, 1804, married Helena, daughter of Rev. Jonathan Du Bois. John purchased forty acres of the old homestead on the County-Line road in Bucks County, formerly owned by his father, to which he subsequently added one hundred acres. In 1843, he purchased the Hoagland farm, in Moreland township, Montgomery Co., containing one hundred and forty-seven acres, the property now owned and occupied by his son Simon V.

Mr. Lefferts was prominently identified with all progressive movements in his township, and especially in church matters, in which he was for many years



Simon V. Lefferts

nington, father of William Pennington. Leffert was the father of children,—Peter; Ida; Art, Aares or Arthur, baptized December 11, 1742, in Bucks County, Pa.; Leffert, baptized December 25, 1744; Jane, baptized October 15, 1752; Abraham, baptized March 17, 1754; Cynthia or Sytie, baptized July 18, 1756; Jacobus or James, baptized August 24, 1760.

IV. Abraham, next in line, was born February 17, 1754, and died January 8, 1819. About 1783, he married Alice Vanarsdale. He owned and occupied a farm of one hundred and fifteen acres, in Southampton township, Bucks Co., Pa. His children were John, Alice, Simon, Abraham, James and Ann.

one of its office-bearers. He organized, and for several years superintended, the pioneer Sunday-school of this section. The school was for some time conducted in his carriage-house, there being at the time no other convenient or suitable place for its sessions. He was also interested in the political affairs of the country, and when the dark and threatening clouds of disloyalty and secession burst forth in all their hellish fury, he had full confidence in the ability of the then new administration to sustain the laws of the country and the perpetuity of the Union, and for some time breasted the storm of opposition around him, and was the first man in his immediate neighborhood to lend

a helping hand to the Union cause, by loans of money, and in the darkest days of the slave-holders' abortive attempt at the destruction of this beautiful national fabric, his hopes of its salvation seemed brightest.

He was a man of wonderful energy and will-power, fearless to all danger, and never seemed to realize that there was such a word as "failure." An instance or two will show more fully his character. When he was but four years of age, his father was building a new barn, and one day, when nearly completed, the family and workmen being at dinner, young Lefferts found his way to the barn, and climbed up the ladder to the peak of the roof, on which he was quietly sitting when discovered by one of the workmen, and removed from his perilous position.

In the winter of 1845, his barn and a portion of his stock was destroyed by fire. Upon the first alarm, without waiting to dress for such an occasion, he hastened to the rescue of his horses and cattle, and despite the earnest entreaties of neighbors and friends, remained in a semi-nude condition in his fruitless effort to rescue his stock, until the frozen flesh fell from his feet, when for three months after, he was unable to walk.

While yet at the age of ninety-five years, he enjoyed good health, labored with his men, and attended to his financial affairs as in years gone by. He was loved and revered in life and mourned in death. He died December 21, 1879, aged ninety-five years, nine months and eight days.

VI. Simon V. Lefferts, son of John of the fifth generation, was born September 28, 1818. He was married, February 16, 1843, to Miss Susanna D., daughter of Abraham and Mary States (sometimes written Staats or Staates). She was born December 23, 1823. In 1844, Mr. Lefferts moved on to the old Hoagland farm, in Moreland township, where he now (1885) resides. He has always been actively engaged in church matters, especially in the church of which he is a member. He organized the Poplar Grove Sunday-school, and for twenty years was its superintendent. He has taken an active part in several incorporated companies, and at one time was president of four companies, and for twenty-five years an officer in the Somerton and Bustleton Turnpike Company. Politically, he is an enthusiastic Republican, and when the hydra-headed serpent of secession vomited forth its slimy and filthy pretensions to a place among the nations of the earth, his voice, pen and purse championed the cause of the Union, and many of the lyceums throughout this section of country resounded from 1861 to the laying down of the last rebel musket, with his voice for the suppression of one of the greatest curses of the nineteenth century,—secession. Although an ardent Republican, he is just as strong a temperance man, and has never tasted anything that would intoxicate. He was the first farmer in the township to gather large harvests

without the use of intoxicants. His views on the tobacco question are equally as strong, he having never used it in any form.

In his younger days, he was fond of the sports of the season, among which was that of catching wild pigeons with a net, and it is to his credit that he sprang the net on the last flock of pigeons ever caught in Montgomery County.

VII. His children are John, born May 21, 1844; Mary Ann, born July 8, 1850. John studied law with John Goforth, of Philadelphia, and graduated April 14, 1867, and is now (1885) in practice in Philadelphia. He is also an elder in the Presbyterian Church, corner of Seventh and Brown Streets. He married Miss Helen C., daughter of Dr. Samuel and Helen C. Rich. Their children are Walter and Helen Lefferts.

Mary Ann was married, December 28, 1876, to Henry L. Search, who was born September 18, 1846. Their children are Susanna L., born February 26, 1878; Theodore C., born October 3, 1884.

Abraham States, the father of Mrs. Simon V. Lefferts, was born in 1791, and died in 1854. His wife was Mary, daughter of Joseph and Mary Franklin. Mrs. Lefferts' grandfather was James States, of Bucks County, Pa., who owned a farm of one hundred acres. This farm was in the States family for over one hundred years. Jacob Rhodes, her maternal great-grandfather, was a native of Germany, emigrated to America, and located near Somerton.

JOHN LLOYD.

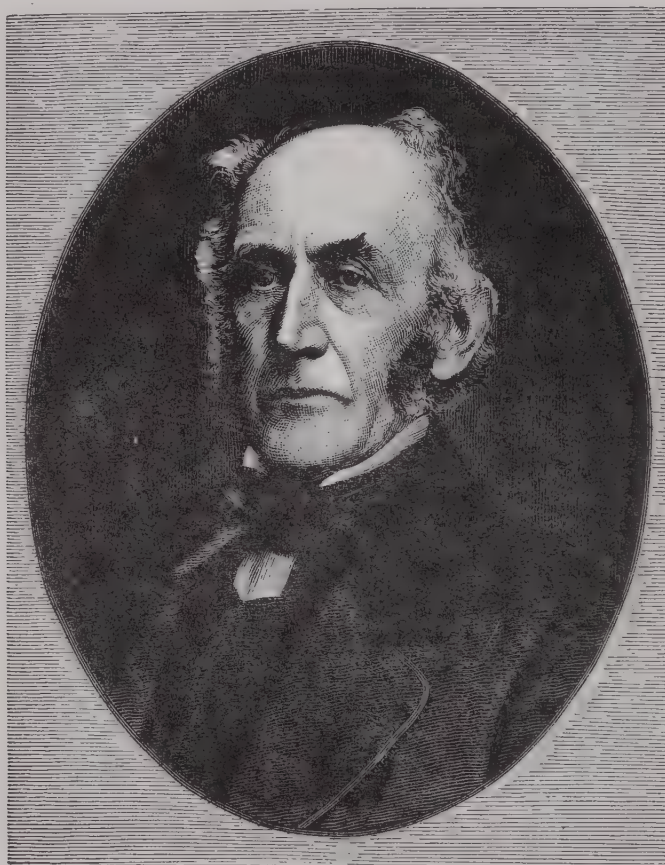
John Lloyd, son of Benjamin Lloyd, was for many years one of the prominent citizens of Moreland township, near what is now the borough of Hatboro'. He was born, and lived all his life upon the farm now occupied by John Lloyd, Jr., and died in July, 1877, in the eighty-second year of his age. He was an earnest and persistent friend of education and all its varied interests, and upon the adoption of the present school law by the people, he was made one of the school directors of the township, a position he held for many years. He was a friend of the friendless, kind to the poor, honorable in all his business transactions with his fellow-men, honored and respected while he lived, and his loss severely felt when gone to his eternal rest, to receive the reward awaiting the righteous. His was truly a life of purity and love, and he died as he had lived, firm in the faith of his fathers, as expressed in the doctrines laid down by the Society of Friends, of which he was a member, his name being enrolled on the books of the Horsham Monthly Meeting.

His wife was Sidnea, daughter of Joshua Paul. Their children were Lydia Ann, deceased, whose husband was Jarrett W. Hallowell; Hannah S., married Joseph W. Hallowell; Ellen, married Charles H. Lu-

kens; Joshua P., name changed by Act of State Legislature to Joseph Paul; Sarah C., deceased, whose husband was Israel H. Mather; Emma, deceased, whose husband was Jonathan P. Iredell; John, married Anna Williams, and now lives on the old homestead.

the latter formerly a tilt-mill. A rugged elevation extends across the entire width of the northeast portion, called Deep Creek Hill.

The name of this township has been derived from Hanover, a capital and kingdom in Germany, which in 1692 was raised to an electorate and in 1814 to a



John Lloya

CHAPTER LXV.

NEW HANOVER TOWNSHIP.

THE township of New Hanover is bounded on the northeast by Upper Hanover, south by Limerick, east by Frederick, north and northwest by Douglas and southwest by Pottsgrove. It is six and three-fourths miles long, its greatest breadth three and one-half miles, with an area of twelve thousand nine hundred and sixty acres, or twenty and one-quarter square miles, being the fourth in size in the county. The surface is rolling and the soil is tolerably productive, being composed of loam and red shale. Swamp Creek flows nearly through its central part, having several branches, and Deep Creek through its eastern corner. The former propels four grist and three saw-mills, and

kingdom. Many of the early Lutheran settlers were natives of this kingdom, which largely accounts for the name given. Another name also applied to this locality is "Falkner's Swamp," it is supposed after Daniel Falkner, one of the agents or attorneys of the Frankfort Land Company. In the purchase made by George McCall, in 1735, of the present Douglas township and nearly one half of Pottsgrove, mention is made that it was bounded on the south by "The Germans' Tract of Land," meaning at least all of the present territory of New Hanover. In 1734 we know that Hanover township comprised all of the present townships of New Hanover, Upper Hanover, Douglas and Pottsgrove and borough of Pottstown. In 1741 it was divided into the first three townships, which then contained together two hundred and forty-

two taxables and one hundred and thirteen land-holders.

The following is a list of the earliest land-holders : John Benner, 100 acres; Daniel Shaner, 100; Mathias Bender, 100; Frederick Richard, 150; Andrew Kepler, 100; John Eshbaugh, 100; Nicholas Brown, 100; Jacob High, 100; Malachi High, 100; Samuel Musselman, 50; Jacob Bechtal, 200; Mathias Christman, 100; John Linderman, 100; Garret Dewees, 100; Cornelius Dewees, 24; John Lewis, 95; Henry Coulston, 100; John Henry Sprogle, 556; George Custer, 100; Peter Lower, 100; Ludwig Bitting, 150; Balsar Hutt, 100; Jacob Wisler, 150; Henry Reader, 150; Robert Thomas, 300; George Roudebush, 150; Frederick Hillegas, 150; Daniel Borleman, 100; Michael Shell, 150; Conrad Culp, 150; Jacob Myer, Jr., 100; Jacob Heistand, 150; Rudolph Mourer, 100; Jacob Fisher, 100; Jacob Mourer, 150; George Geiger, 50; Valentine Geiger, 100; Philip Knecht, 50; Adam Harman, 100; Mathias Harman, 100; Adam Spangler, 50; Peter Conrad, 100; Michael Smith, 50; Jacob Switzer, 10; Philip Brant, 100; Henry Antes, 150; Adam Ox, 140; Henry Bitting, 100; Jacob Myer, 100; Simon Kreps, 100; Henry Kreps, 100; Yost Fryer, 100; Barnabas Futtero, 100; Jacob Fry, 100; Sebastian Reifsnyder, 100; John Snyder, 150; John George, 100; Anthony Hinkle, 100; Henry Acker, 50. Jacob and John Heistand arrived in 1727, and Henry, Philip and Jacob Acker in 1732. Jacob Heistand purchased here, some time before 1733, one hundred and fifty acres, and Henry Acker, fifty acres.

Henry Antes came from Germany to this country prior to 1726, and first settled in Philadelphia, and a few years after removed to New Hanover. He was a very useful and ingenious man, and built the first grist-mill at Bethlehem in 1743, and between 1745 and 1750 had the direction of the public improvements there. He died in this township in 1755. Frederick Antes, his son, was born in 1730. He was an iron-founder, and cast the first four-pound guns for the Revolutionary army. He was one of the members elected in the county to frame the new Constitution of Pennsylvania, which was adopted September 28, 1776. It is said a sense of danger from the British induced him to leave New Hanover and to remove to Northumberland. In 1781 he became the presiding judge of that county, and in 1784 a member of Assembly. He followed the business of gunsmithing, and Dr. Priestly, in his "Memoirs," speaks of the great aid he received from him in making his philosophical instruments. He died at Lancaster September 20, 1801. His daughter Catharine was the second wife of Governor Simon Snyder.

The taxables in 1741 were 87; in 1828, 323; in 1858, 442; in 1875, 446; in 1884, 471. The population in 1800 was 1595; in 1830, 1344; in 1850, 1635; in 1870, 1900; and in 1880, 1905.

The villages in New Hanover are Swamp (the town-

ship seat), Fagleysville, New Hanover Square and Pleasant Run. The village of New Hanover, better known as the Swamp or Swamp Churches, is situated sixteen miles from Norristown, and in 1832, Gordon, in his "Gazetteer," says it contained two churches, a post-office, tannery, two taverns, two stores and eight dwellings. The post-office was established before 1827, under the title of "Swamp Churches," which was changed a few years after to its present name of New Hanover. This is quite an old settlement. Nicholas Scull mentions here, in 1758, "The Lutheran Dutch" and the "Dutch Church," and "Yelyer's Mill," where is now Christman's grist and saw-mill, a mile northeast of the village.

Fagleysville, on the turnpike, two miles south of New Hanover, appears also to be an ancient settlement, Scull mentioning an inn here, in 1758, called "The Rose."

The importance attached by the early German settlers of attending to the education of their children is shown by the fact that schools, under the support and control of the various religious denominations, were established shortly after this portion of country was settled. As early as 1755 schools at Falkner Schwezny in New Hanover, received by charity from the Fathers and Overseers of the Reformed Church in Holland, Germany and Switzerland the sum of £35 15s., which was followed by other contributions till 1770. In 1760 there were forty-five boys in the school at New Hanover. The fact that no mention is made of girls being in attendance upon these schools strongly suggests that the custom of educating the boys and not the girls prevailed at this early time. The custom was incident to the laws of primogeniture, which were abrogated in this country in 1682, but the effects were still felt in these old communities.

The present public-school system was accepted by the township about the year 1750. There are eleven schools in the township, including the independent districts of Swamp and Fagleysville. The former has a term of eight months, giving a salary of forty dollars per month, and the latter a term of seven months, with the same salary. The regular school term is five months, nine teachers being employed, at a salary of thirty dollars per month. The entire absence of female teachers in the township, with but one exception, would appear that the prejudice formerly so marked against the employment of ladies as teachers is not entirely removed.

The New Hanover Lutheran is the oldest German Lutheran congregation in America. Its first pastor was Justus Falkner, who came here in 1703, having been ordained and sent by Andreas Rudman, the Swedish provost at Philadelphia. In 1717, Rev. Gerhard Henkel settled here and many of his descendants are still in this neighborhood. From 1720 to 1723 this church was frequently visited by Rev. Samuel Hesselius, Swedish pastor at Morlatton. In 1732 Rev. John Christian Schulze took this charge, and he in

turn was succeeded by Rev. John Caspar Støver. The Rev. Henry M. Muhlenberg arrived in Philadelphia from Germany November 25, 1742, and only three days afterward preached here his first sermon in Pennsylvania, from 2 Corinthians v. 20. He then found about one hundred communicants, who worshiped in a log church. At his first arrival in New Hanover, there was considerable opposition to his reception in consequence of self-constituted preachers, but the power of his eloquence overcame all and unity prevailed. In 1767 the congregation built a new and spacious stone church, which is still standing. In October, 1761, Mr. Muhlenberg left the congregations of New Hanover and the Trappe, and moved to Philadelphia, but returned in 1776. In his journal of October 7, 1777, he says,—

"I was informed that a number of Americans wounded in the battle last Saturday (October 4, at Germantown) were put in our Lutheran Church, at New Hanover, to be treated by the surgeons. October 9, Mr. Steril came to-day in the rain from New Hanover, and informs me that the surgeons are cutting off shattered arms and legs of the wounded soldiers there, and that three had died last night of their wounds. Those that could bear transportation were to be taken up to Reading, and the balance of the sick and wounded to be distributed among the neighboring houses."

The present pastor is Rev. L. Groh who lives at Boyertown, Berks County, and officiates at St. John's Church, Boyertown, in connection with the New Hanover Lutheran or "Swamp."

From the best information at hand, the first Reformed Church in New Hanover was built in 1720. Its first pastor was John Philip Boehm, succeeded by Michael Schlatter, in 1746. From 1784 to 1799, John Philip Leydich, Nicholas Pomp and Frederick Dellecker officiated, and they, in 1800, were succeeded by Dr. L. Frederick Herman, who died in 1848. This congregation also worshiped at first in a log building which stood till 1790, when they erected a fine brick church, which was remodeled in 1869 and is now one of the finest churches in the vicinity. Its present pastor is the Rev. L. J. Mayer, who came here in 1866. There is connected with both this and the German Lutheran Church large burial-grounds, which are attended to with evident care and kept in excellent condition.

The following report will show that the early inhabitants of New Hanover were not unmindful of their duty to the poor:

"March 30, 1741, Bernhart Dotterer and Jacob Freyer settled the accounts of Dilman Zeigler and Samuel Yerger, overseers of the poor:

	£	s.	d.
" Money by them collected	12	1	2
	£	s.	d.
Disbursed	7	12	0
By loss	14	0	
	8	6	0
	£3	15	2
For collecting	15	2	
	£3	0	0
Balance due	£3	0	0

"To be delivered to the overseers, George George and Simon Creps, for the year 1740."

This praiseworthy act was continued, as the books show, until the year 1807.

The following may interest the reader:

"The overseers of the poor are ordered, by a number of the inhabitants of New Hanover, to furnish Frantz Epple with a linsey jacket, a pair of tow trousers, a new shirt, a pair of new stockings, a pair of new shoes and a linsey underjacket.

"Signed by order of the inhabitants,

"JOHN RICHARDS.

"JOHN BROOKE.

"BENJ. MARKLEY.

"CASSIMER MISSIMER.

"ANDREW SMITH.

"March 20, 1784."

By an act of the Legislature, passed September 13, 1785, the freemen of the townships of Limerick, New Hanover, Douglas, Upper Hanover, Marlborough and Upper Salford were to hold their elections at the tavern of Michael Creps, in New Hanover. This remained in force till 1807, after which the elections only of Douglas and this township were continued at the same place, now known as New Hanover Square. This township became a separate election district by making Douglas township a separate election district by act of Assembly, approved April 16, 1827.

By the assessment of 1785, the first made under the officials of Montgomery County, there were in the township four taverns, five grist-mills, two saw-mills, three tanneries and one slave.

"MONTGOMERY COUNTY, SS.

"A tax of three shillings and sixpence in every hundred pounds (and from $\frac{3}{4}$ to ten shillings per head on all single freemen), laid on the Estates, real and personal, of the Freeholders and Inhabitants within New Hanover Township, for defraying the expenses of the public Buildings and other Expenses of said County. Given under our Hands this 20th day of March, 1792.

"NATHAN POTTS,

"JOHN MANN,

"CONRAD BOYER,

} Commissioners."

Under the assessment of 1792, two hundred and sixty-one land-holders were assessed to the aggregate amount of £75 18s. 7d.

The following is a list of the single men taxed according to this order in the said township: Philip Yerger, Henry Smith, Tobias Yerger, Jacob Dachenbach, John Liebengood, John Erney, Henry Gilbert, Frederick Hartman, Jacob Malsberger, Joseph Walker, John Ruth, Isaac Bingeman, Michael Feadly, Henry Egolf, Adam Egolf, John Reifsnyder, Abraham Dotterer, John Lick, George Gousenger, John Loch, Christian Fryer, Adam Bartman, Andrew Hank, Philip Haun, Lewis Linsebegler, Michael Hoph, John Rusher, Johanas Reifsnyder, John Looch, Jacob Stalpt and Jacob Achey.

The following exhibit from the mercantile appraiser's list of 1884 shows the business advancement of this township: F. Brendlinger, dry-goods; I. Christman, flour and feed; N. G. Drace, merchandise; Jonathan Erb, butcher; Elias Fagley, merchandise; Charles Fox, merchandise; Good-Will Grangers, Patrons of Husbandry, merchandise; W. B. Groff, merchandise; Solomon Hoffman, butcher; John Hoffman, butcher; John Kehl, feed; and live stock;

Washington Leidy, live stock; J. Lenhart, flour and feed; Aug. Schaffer, flour, feed; Henry Schneider, leather; C. Weyant, merchandise; J. M. H. Walter, flour, feed; Weyant & Co., live stock; George Weand, live stock; Henry Zern, butcher.

The present number of taxables is 471; value of improved lands, \$848,051; value of unimproved lands, \$35,300; value of 461 horses, \$36,263; value of 1200 cattle, \$36,284; total value of all property taxable for county purposes, \$988,228.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOHN FREDERICK HARTRANFT.¹

John Frederick Hartranft, who was one of the most prominent generals in the Union army in the great war of the Rebellion, afterwards Governor of Pennsylvania, and is now collector of the port of Philadelphia and major general commanding the National Guard of the State, is a native of Montgomery County, born on the 16th of December, 1830, in New Hanover township, which was then the home of his parents, Samuel E. and Lydia (Bucher) Hartranft. In 1844 they removed from New Hanover, and took up their permanent residence in Norristown, where, for several years following that time, their son, John F., attended the Treemount Seminary, then under charge of the Rev. Samuel Aaron. Afterwards he passed freshman year at Marshall College, Mercersburg, Pa., and in the twentieth year of his age entered Union College (Schenectady, N. Y.), where he was graduated in 1853.

After leaving college his first employment was as an assistant engineer on a preliminary survey of the line of a proposed railroad from Chestnut Hill, *via* Doylestown, to New Hope, and also of the route between Mauch Chunk and White Haven. In the following year Michael C. Boyer, sheriff of Montgomery County, appointed him a deputy, which office he continued to fill under Mr. Boyer and his successor, Sheriff Rudy, until 1859. During his last term as deputy sheriff he commenced the study of the law, and was admitted to practice October 4, 1860.

Prior to the commencement of his law studies he had joined the military company called the Norris City Rifles, of which he was afterwards successively elected lieutenant and captain, from which latter grade he was promoted, by election, to the colonelcy of the Fourth Regiment of Pennsylvania militia in the spring of 1859. Two years later, when the war of the Rebellion had been opened by the attack on Fort Sumter, and President Lincoln called for seventy-five thousand troops to support the government, Colonel Hartranft promptly offered the services of his regi-

ment, which were as promptly accepted by Governor Curtin. The President's call had been made on the 15th of April, 1861; on the 16th, Colonel Hartranft reported to the Governor at Harrisburg; on the 20th the seven Montgomery County companies forming the Fourth Regiment left for the rendezvous at Harrisburg, and two days later the regiment was on its way, *via* Perryville and Annapolis, to Washington, D. C., where it arrived May 8th, and remained until the 24th of June, when it crossed the Potomac into Virginia.

The Fourth had been mustered into the service for three months, and during that time no collision with the enemy had occurred; but on the day of the expiration of the term an order was issued for a general advance of the army, which resulted in the battle of Bull Run. On the day of the advance to that field of disaster the regiment was ordered to the rear for muster out, but there were a few of its members who preferred to go to the front, though not compelled to do so. Among these was Colonel Hartranft, who offered his services, and was accepted as a volunteer aid on the staff of Colonel W. B. Franklin. He passed safely through the battle, though he performed services for which he was afterwards mentioned in complimentary terms in Colonel Franklin's report of the action.

At the close of the Bull Run campaign Colonel Hartranft returned home, and, under authority which he had asked while the Fourth was yet in the field, commenced the raising of a regiment for the three years' service. The story of his gallantry at Bull Run had given him great popularity, which rendered the raising of the new regiment a comparatively easy task. On its completion it was designated as the Fifty-first of the Pennsylvania line, and was assigned to the command of General A. E. Burnside at Annapolis, Md., to form part of an expedition to be led by that general against the enemy's forces and strongholds in North Carolina.

The expedition sailed from Annapolis on the 9th of January, 1862, and after a long and stormy passage passed Hatteras Inlet, and entered Pamlico Sound. On the 7th of February occurred the battle and victory of Roanoke Island, in which Colonel Hartranft and his regiment participated with conspicuous gallantry. Again, on the 14th of March, it formed a part of the column that assaulted and carried the strong works at Newbern. In August following, the regiment, with the other commands of Burnside's army, moved, by water transportation, from North Carolina to the Potomac River, and, disembarking, marched into Virginia to the relief of General Pope, who was then hard pressed by the enemy. In that campaign Colonel Hartranft and his regiment took part in the engagements of Second Bull Run and Chantilly.

Crossing the Potomac with the army, they were engaged in the battle of South Mountain, where General Reno was killed, and again, on the 17th of September, fought in the great battle of Antietam

¹ For portrait of General Hartranft, see page 196.

where, in the heat of the conflict, the Fifty-first was ordered to cross the stone bridge on the extreme left of the Union line, which was held by the enemy and commanded by his guns. The order was promptly obeyed and the bridge was carried, Colonel Hartranft leading his command across in the face of a terrific fire from the enfilading batteries. In General Burnside's report of that battle he paid a high compliment to the gallantry and other soldierly qualities of Colonel Hartranft, and recommended him for promotion to the grade of brigadier General.

A more minute account of the services of the Fifty-first and its commanding officer, Colonel Hartranft, from their first gallant fight at Roanoke Island to their crossing of the historic stone bridge at Antietam, as also of the part they took in the bloody storming of the Heights of Fredericksburg, on the 13th of December, 1862, will be found on pages 204 to 208 of this history.

In April, 1863, Colonel Hartranft and his regiment, with others forming the Ninth Corps, moved from Newport News, Va., by river and rail to Kentucky, whence, after a few weeks of active service, they were transported to Mississippi, taking part in the fight at Jackson, on the 12th of July, and in the occupation of that city, on the 18th. From Mississippi the command then moved back to Kentucky, where Colonel Hartranft was prostrated by illness, and remained for some time unable to do duty. On his recovery he rejoined the regiment at Lenoir, East Tennessee, where he was placed in command of the Second Division of the Ninth Corps, and immediately afterwards fought the battle of Campbell's Station, from which he retired to Knoxville, where, largely on account of the engineering skill which he displayed in the fortifying of the place, it was successfully held until the siege was raised by the approach of General Sherman's troops from Chattanooga.

Early in January, 1864, the regiment re-enlisted, and, receiving the veteran furlough, returned home to recruit. On their arrival, Benjamin E. Chain, Esq., in an address of welcome delivered on behalf of the citizens of Norristown, said: "It is to you, Colonel Hartranft, that the regiment owes the character it bears. Your discipline in the camp, your foresight on the march, your coolness, bravery and judgment on the battle-field have won the confidence and love of your men, and made them heroes in the fight. They knew you never ordered when you did not lead."

At the expiration of the veteran furlough the regiment (having received a large number of recruits) proceeded to Annapolis, Md., where, in the absence of General Burnside, the entire corps, numbering twenty thousand men, was for the time placed under the command of Colonel Hartranft, to whom all new regiments were ordered to report, and to whom was committed the supervision of the work of organization and equipment. In the Wilderness campaign, which

followed (the Ninth Corps having in the mean time joined the Army of the Potomac on the Rapidan), he commanded a brigade, with the proper rank of brigadier-general, to which he had long been entitled, he having received that promotion nearly two years after it had been urged by General Burnside in recognition for his gallant service at Antietam.

In the engagements at Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Poplar Springs, Hatcher's Run, Weldon Railroad, Ream's Station and the mine explosion, General Hartranft and his brigade fought gallantly and well. But the action in which he won his highest renown was the recapture of Fort Steadman, before Petersburg. On the morning of March 25, 1865, in the darkness just preceding the dawn, the Confederates assaulted the fort suddenly, and with such impetuosity that in a few minutes they had carried the work, taking a large number of prisoners. About a mile away was the headquarters of General Hartranft, who was then in command of the Third Division of the Ninth Corps, composed largely of raw troops. At a little before four o'clock the general was awakened by the noise of the Confederate assault, and, immediately learning that the fort had been taken, he formed his division to resist a further advance of the enemy. Having done this, he soon received orders from General Parke (then temporarily in command of the army) to suspend the attack until the arrival of the Fifth Corps. Notwithstanding this countermand of his orders, feeling confident of his ability to retake the work without reinforcement by the Fifth Corps, he determined to make the attempt, and moved quickly on, with only his own and the First Division, himself leading the assault. The Confederates, though surprised, made a most obstinate resistance, but were driven back with heavy loss, and the work was retaken, with about three thousand prisoners.

It was a complete victory, and acknowledged to be one of the most brilliant achievements of the Petersburg siege. General Hartranft's services on this occasion were promptly recognized by his promotion to the brevet rank of major general, as nominated by Lieutenant-General Grant, on recommendation by Generals Meads and Parke. The following official communications show the action taken in the matter.

"HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

"March 27, 1865.

"To Major-General J. G. Parke, commanding Ninth Army Corps:

"GENERAL—The commanding general directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, recommending Brigadier-General Hartranft, United States Volunteers, for the brevet of major-general of volunteers for his conspicuous gallantry in re-capturing Fort Steadman during the action of the 25th instant, as well as for his industry and efficiency in organizing and disciplining his division, composed of new regiments. In reply, I am directed to inform you that before the receipt of your letter a communication to the same effect had been made by the commanding general to Lieutenant-General Grant, to which a response was received that his nomination had been made to the Secretary of War, and a telegraphic answer returned that the appointment should be made. Since then the commanding general is informed by telegraph that Brigadier-General Hartranft is breveted

major general, and the appointment has been forwarded by mail. Your communication, however, has been forwarded to complete the record.

"I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

"GEORGE D. RUGGLES, A. A. G."

"HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS.

March 28th, 1865.

"Brevet Major-General J. F. Hartranft, commanding Third Division :

"GENERAL—The commanding general instructs me to transmit herewith a copy of communication from the commanding general of the Army of the Potomac, of yesterday's date, which will explain itself.

He bids me say, however, in connection therewith, that such prompt recognition of your services on the 25th instant by the President, the lieutenant general, and major general commanding the army, affords him the greatest pleasure, and he begs you will accept his hearty congratulations on your well-deserved promotion.

"I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"P. M. LYDIG Brevet Lieutenant, Colonel and A. A. G."

On the 2d of April, one week after the recapture of Fort Steadman, a general assault was made on the inner defenses of Petersburg. In the fighting of that day a prominent part was taken by the division of General Hartranft, who, at dawn on the 3d, entered the city, and passing through it, pursued the retreating enemy to Nottoway Court-House. Six days later came the closing scene of the war, at Appomattox, and soon afterwards General Hartranft was mustered out of the volunteer service. The government, wishing to retain the services of so able and gallant an officer, proffered him the appointment of colonel of the Thirty-fourth Infantry of the regular army, but declining this, he returned to civil life.

In 1865 the Republicans of Montgomery County urged the claims of General Hartranft for the office of auditor-general of Pennsylvania. In the convention that assembled at Harrisburg on the 17th of September in that year, he was unanimously nominated on the second ballot, and in the ensuing election he received a majority of twenty-two thousand six hundred and sixty votes. "His long tour of duty in the army, and the frequently manifested hostility of his original party friends (the Democrats) to the administration charged with the prosecution of the war had detached him from them, and yet his prudent reserve had not incurred the rancor that often arises when a man shifts his political ground. Still the Democracy watched his administration of the finances with Argus eyes. But the simple honesty of purpose that had carried him through the war without reproach enabled him to close his first term with the report that, in connection with Governor Geary and the Legislature, the State debt had already been reduced several millions. . . In 1871 he had filled the post of auditor-general so fully to the acceptance of his party that he was re-nominated almost by acclamation. It was admitted that during his second term he had drawn before the light of day some parties who had been evading State taxes, and were about to realize large sums which belonged to the commonwealth. . . . Although there was a relentless clamor raised against him by the opposite party, alleging corruption and nearly every possible offense, he was so fully vindicated in the judgment of his party as to obtain, on the 9th of

April, 1872, the gubernatorial nomination on the first ballot."

In the election of 1872, General Hartranft was elected Governor of Pennsylvania by an absolute majority of thirty-four thousand four hundred and forty-seven, and a plurality over his Democratic opponent, Buckalew, of thirty-five thousand six hundred and twenty-seven. He was inaugurated January 21, 1873. "True to his ancestry, who were pious German refugees to America for the sake of conscience, the Governor opened and closed his first inaugural, as, in fact, all his subsequent papers of the kind, with a recognition of the Divine power that rules the world, and confessing his dependence upon Him for direction and success. True also to his generous sympathy with the humble, while the pageant to his honor was in progress, he stole aside to take by the hand a large number of soldiers' orphans, who had gathered at Harrisburg on the occasion."

In 1875, Governor Hartranft was re-elected, and was inaugurated on the 18th of January, 1876. During his second term as Governor (in 1877) the quelling of the terrible railroad riots in the State (principally at Pittsburgh) subjected his executive ability, firmness and judgment to the severest test to which they had ever been brought in all his military and civil career. "This popular commotion found the Governor on the way to the Pacific in company with some friends. Having, however, efficient subordinates in Secretary Quay and Adjutant-General Latta, he was able to direct movements immediately on being apprised of the outbreak. In ordering out the whole military power of the State at once and appealing to the Federal Government also for help (the latter probably unnecessary), he met the trouble as Washington did the Whiskey Insurrection,—frightened the rioters at the out-start. The result proved the wisdom of the measures adopted, and it is worthy of remark that after the Governor arrived on the scene of the disorder scarcely a life was sacrificed either on the part of the military or of the people."

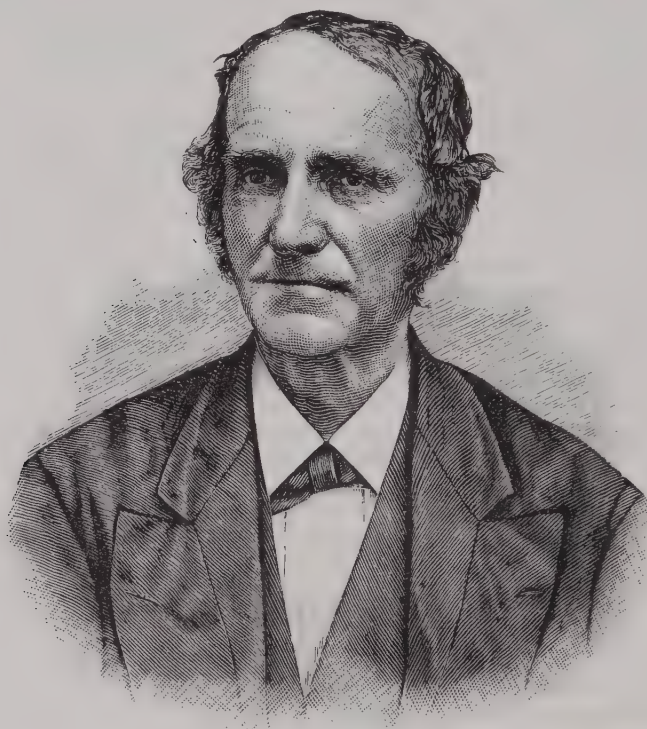
With reference to these outbreaks, and their suppression, Governor Hartranft, in his next succeeding message, said: "Thus ended the great railway strike of 1877 in Pennsylvania, which resulted in violence, murder and arson, which caused the death of over fifty civilians and five soldiers and the wounding and maiming of a hundred or more, and the destruction of millions of dollars' worth of property. While it is true that the workingmen who began it contemplated no such terrible results, it cannot be denied that the manner in which they proceeded to enforce their demand, by stopping inland commerce and seizing the property of corporations and individuals, and driving citizens from their occupations in defiance of law, made the breach through which the lawless elements of society poured to plunder and destroy. By thus inconsiderately inviting the co-operation of the criminal classes, labor did itself a great and grievous

injury, and it will be long before it can remove the suspicion and distrust with which the people will view its strikes and organizations."

The last term of Governor Hartranft expired on the 21st of January, 1879. On the 23d of the same month, his successor, Governor Henry M. Hoyt, appointed him Major-General commanding the Division of the National Guard of Pennsylvania. His friends urged on President Hayes his appointment to the Berlin Mission, as the successor of Bayard Taylor, an office which he was eminently qualified to fill, though it was not known that he wished it. Political considerations prevented the selection as desired by his friends, and he was tendered the appointment of Postmaster of Phila-

ISAAC F. YOST.

Philip Yost (or Jost), the great-grandfather of Isaac F. Yost, emigrated from Nassau, West Germany, about the year 1740. He was born in 1718, and married Veronica Dotterer, of Limerick township, where he afterwards settled. His children were three sons—John, Harman and Philip—and several daughters. The death of Philip Yost occurred in his eighty-seventh year. His son Philip was born August 24, 1757, in Limerick township, and on attaining a suitable age learned the trade of a wheelwright. He removed in the year 1768, with his father, to the farm in Pottsgrove (then New Hanover) township, still in possession of the family, and soon after en-



Isaac F. Yost

delphia, which was promptly confirmed by the Senate, and which, after some hesitation, he accepted. He continued in the office until July 15, 1880, when he entered upon his duties as Collector of the Port of Philadelphia. He was confirmed by the Senate, and commissioned for four years, in the following February. In February, 1885, he was re-appointed, confirmed, and re-commissioned for a second term of four years. On the 30th of November, 1883, he was re-appointed by Governor Pattison, Major-General of the National Guard, for a term of four years, from the expiration of his previous commission, January 23, 1884.

tered the Revolutionary army. On his discharge from service and return to his home he married, in 1783, Rosina Berminger, and had children,—Mary Magdalene, wife of Henry Sheffey; Tobias; Jacob; Benjamin; Salome, wife of Frederick Linderman; Elizabeth, wife of Isaac Linderman; Rosina, who married Jacob Schlichter; Herman; Jonas; Sarah, wife of Samuel Gilham; and Philip. After his marriage Mr. Yost removed to a farm in the present Pottsgrove township, where his death occurred on the 28th of August, 1832. His son Benjamin was born in 1787, in Pottsgrove (formerly New Hanover) township, where his death occurred September 30,

1858, in his seventy-first year, his life having been spent in the occupations of a farmer. He was a man of influence in the county, having held the offices of county commissioner, county treasurer and register of wills. He married Sarah, daughter of Isaac Feather, of New Hanover township, and had children,—Isaac F., Sarah, Benjamin, Herman, who died in youth, and Elizabeth, wife of Frederick Knoll. Isaac F. was born on the homestead farm, in Pottsgrove township, on the 2d of March, 1815, and after a common-school education engaged in teaching, the winter being devoted to this pursuit and the summer to farm labor. In 1844 he purchased a farm in Pottsgrove township, which he continued to cultivate until 1869, when Swamp, in New Hanover township, became and is now his place of residence. Judge Yost is still engaged in farming, though not as extensively as in his younger days. He was, on the 1st of November, 1838, married to Rosina, daughter of Daniel Miller, of Pottsgrove, whose children are Daniel M., Louisa M. (deceased), Benjamin M., Rosina (deceased), Amelia (Mrs. Tobias Shelley), Salome M. (Mrs. William S. Bliem), Isaac M., Mary Ann (Mrs. James B. Stauffer), Josiah M., Philip M., Emma, Rebecca (Mrs. Franklin Binder), Hannah E. (deceased) and John R. Judge Yost, always an ardent Democrat in politics, has been frequently honored by his constituents with positions of importance. He filled the office of county auditor, was in 1854 made county commissioner and in 1871 elected associate judge of the county, being the last incumbent of that office. He also served for twelve years as school director and held minor township positions. Judge Yost's religious faith is in accord with the doctrines of the Reformed Church, his membership being with the Falconer's Swamp Church of that denomination, in which he has officiated as elder. The death of Mrs. Yost occurred January 7, 1885, in her sixty-eighth year.

CHAPTER. LXVI.

NORRITON TOWNSHIP.

WILLIAM PENN, by a special order, dated Eleventh Month, 1689, directed Captain Thomas Holme, the surveyor-general of the province, "to lay out a tract of land on the canoeable part of Schuylkill." In pursuance of this order a survey was made,—

"Beginning at a hickory-tree by the said Skoolkill, being the corner of Plymouth Township; thence northwest by the same township nine hundred and fifty perches to another hickory-tree; thence northwest in the line of a tract of land called Whitpain's Township, eleven hundred and sixty-nine perches, to corner oak in the line of said Proprietary's Manor of Gilberts (now Lower Providence); thence southwest, along said Manor line 1848 perches to a dog-tree, by the said Skoolkill; thence down the said River to the place of beginning."

The tract was said to contain seven thousand four hundred and eighty-two acres, and was designated

the "Manor of Williamstadt." It was intended as a princely gift for the son of the great proprietor, and lay directly opposite to a similar manor surveyed and laid out on the south side of the river for his daughter, Letitia Penn. A patent was granted October 2, 1704, conveying to William Penn, Jr., the manor or tract above described. The record disclosed the fact that on the 7th day of October of the same year, or five days after coming into the possession of this great estate, he parted with it to Isaac Norris and William Trent, merchants of Philadelphia. Eight years later, on January 11, 1712, Mr. Norris acquired all the interest of Mr. Trent. The cost of the manor to Messrs. Norris and Trent was £850, a sum that has always been thought grossly inadequate, and by some writers believed to have resulted from the reckless and improvident character of the vendor. The ancient manor of Williamstadt remained intact until 1730, when, by the usual proceedings upon the petition of resident property-owners, the township of Norriton was created and duly decreed by the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia County. The original area of this township was lessened by the creation of the borough of Norristown in 1812, which contained five hundred and twenty acres, and subsequently (1853) extended its limits, embracing about fifteen hundred additional acres, thus reducing the area to about five thousand five hundred acres. At the time the manor was changed into a township there were twenty land-owners and tenants and five additional taxable inhabitants. It is manifest that the early settlers attached importance to the advantages of municipal government in the opening of public roads and the construction of bridges over streams that had to be crossed in reaching saw and grist-mills, which at that day were of great importance to land-owners. The condition of the people from 1730 to 1784, fifty-four years, when the county was established, is greatly obscured. Being remote from Philadelphia, then the seat of municipal government, to which all assessments of property, justices' dockets and returns of all public officers were made, and the most valuable of these records being lost, we search in vain for authenticated facts to show the habits, manners and customs of the comparatively few people or families who lived and died in the early days of Norriton. The name of the township is in honor of the Norris family, the head of which, Isaac Norris, was prominent not only as a large land-owner, but also in public affairs. He was chosen eighteen times Speaker of the General Assembly, being first elected in 1713. He was finally appointed to the office of chief justice of the province, and was in the enjoyment of that position the year he died, 1735.

It was about this period that the people built a place of public worship, known as the Norriton Presbyterian Meeting-House. The stone structure now standing is the same in all its material parts as when built, though substantial repairs have undoubtedly

been made.¹ Tradition says the building was used and greatly abused by the soldiers of both armies during the Revolution, and we are inclined to credit the story for the reason that it lay on the line of march of Washington when he moved to the battle of Germantown, and on his line of retreat it was doubtless used by the stragglers and perhaps by wounded and worn-out soldiers for shelter and protection from the cold and frosty nights of that period of the year. The place was on the line of patrol between Valley Forge and Trenton, as traversed by the mounted men of Colonel Lacey, in keeping open communication between the places named. This portion of the county was between the established lines and scouted by the horsemen of both parties. The main picket, east of the river, was stationed at the junction of roads now known as Jeffersonville, and where the old hotel was partially burned by the British in the winter of 1778. The danger to which the patriots was exposed at that time in this locality is referred to by David Rittenhouse, who was then performing his duty as treasurer of the commonwealth at Lancaster City, and who wrote to his wife, then living with her children on the old Rittenhouse homestead, now occupied by Emanuel Gouldy. Mr. Rittenhouse wrote, January 26, 1778, as follows:

"I shall perhaps, before I seal this, Appoint a time to meet you. In my last I partly promised to come to stay a fortnight with you; but I do not now think it so safe as I did then. In our present situation, I should not think it prudent to stay above one night with you, as parties of horse are employed to pick up particular persons. For this reason I would rather meet you at one of your Brothers', or at Sister's, but I apprehend the Schuylkill is at present difficult, if not dangerous, to cross, on account of the ice."

Mr. Rittenhouse seems oblivious of the fact that Washington had constructed a long bridge over the river at Valley Forge, and that he could have crossed at that point without hazard. The brothers he refers to were John and Israel Jacobs. The sister referred to was Mrs. Colonel Caleb Parry, whose husband was killed at the battle of Long Island, in July, 1776. Mr. Rittenhouse adds the following postscript to the above-mentioned letter:

"Tuesday Morning. I am now nearly determined to appoint next Saturday week, in the evening, to meet you at Brother John's; and I fear it may expose one or both to a very uncomfortable ride. I will, however, be there, if the weather be tolerable and health permits; but do not come my dear H., if the weather be bad, because if I do not find you there, I shall proceed to Brother Israel's, where I shall be glad to find you on Sunday in order to accompany you home. If you can find any opportunity to write before then, I shall be glad to receive a line."

We are not advised whether the visit was made or not, but if it was, the distinguished citizen of Norriton certainly eluded the vigilance of the British scouts, who would have esteemed the treasurer of the commonwealth a prize of the first class.

The personal property assessed in the name of the twenty land-holders at the time the township was created is reported to be one hundred and eighty-one horses, two hundred and sixty-nine horned cattle, fourteen negro slaves, two riding-chairs. The following places of business are noted: two grist-mills, four saw-mills, one tannery, six taverns, licensed to the following persons: Hannah Thompson, John Shannon, John Wentz, George Gilbert, Josiah Wood and Abraham Wolford. The land-holders assessed in 1784 were John Coulson, Samuel Evans, Henry Johnson, Evan Hughs, John Eastburn, Nicholas Robinson, William Hayes, Joseph Armstrong, Thomas Warner, Bartle Bartleson, John Hatfield, Aaron Roberts, Job Pugh, Jesse Pugh and Ellis Roberts. Persons named as tenants were Francis Mahony, Robert Roger, Robert Shannon, Charles Morris and William Robinson.

The population of Norriton in 1810 was 1336; in 1820, 1098; 1830, 1139; 1840, 1411; 1850, 1594. It appears remarkable that this township, composed of agricultural people, and without a transient population, should decrease so largely and lose two hundred and thirty-eight of its numbers between the years 1810 and 1820. The public highways of this township were opened early in its history. The Schuylkill River being of great importance to the people, and being fordable at ordinary stages of water, public roads led to and over it at many points long before the county was created. The Ridge and Germantown turnpike roads pass through the entire length of the township, while these are intersected by cross-roads at convenient distances, making it possible to reach almost every household from one or more of these public highways. There are about fifty miles of public roadway in this township. Two supervisors have care of them, and they are kept in good repair, with substantial bridges built at all points where they cross Stony Creek, Indian Creek, Five-Mile Run, Saw-Mill Run and tributaries flowing into them. As the manners and habits of our ancestors changed in the matter of travel and transportation, public highways were improved and new ones were laid out and opened. So long as the farmers conveyed all their dairy products to Philadelphia on horseback, attended places of public worship, weddings, funerals, elections, militia trainings, and social gatherings in the same manner, indifferent highways answered their purposes, creeks and rivers were forded, and the slight dangers experienced in times of high-water or in seasons of sledding only added zest to the courage and horsemanship of the period. The supervisors would have been thought reckless in the expenditure of road tax if they would have cut down hills, filled trifling depressions, and planked over small water-courses, for our fathers and mothers, who galloped over these hills and hollows, could clear a trifling stream or ford a creek or river without moistening a skirt or soiling polished boot and buckskin in their merry rides.

¹ William J. Buck, in his "History of Montgomery County," published in 1859, cites an act of Assembly, approved September, 1785, authorizing money to be raised by means of a lottery to make repairs to this meeting-house. This fact would indicate that repairs were needed at the date hostilities ceased, while lotteries were used in those days for all manner of public improvements.

When, however, the two-wheeled chair was sup-
planted by the four-wheeled "Dearborn wagon,"
first with wooden and then with steel or elliptic
springs, and subsequently, with still more luxurious
means of travel, when pack-horses gave way to the
stage-coach, and great Conestoga wagons and teams,
and these were required to pass through Norriton,
then it was that public highways were greatly im-
proved and rapidly multiplied. The Egypt road,
opened to public travel prior to 1776, was a very
important one to through travel, while the con-
struction and opening to public use of the Ridge
and Germantown turnpikes, the former completed
about 1800, the latter 1816, were deemed a matter
of State interest, as they afforded certain high-
ways at all seasons of the year for the transporta-
tion of commodities to the interior, and connected
with a system of turnpike roads leading to the Ohio
River and settlements on the frontier. It was in this
connection that the taverns or inns of Norriton enjoyed
deserved prominence as houses of public accommoda-
tion. It is still within the memory of the oldest surviv-
ing people of the township when the hotels at Jeffers-
ville, Trooper, Barley Sheaf, Penn Square, Spring-
town, the old St. Clair House, near Hartranft Station,
were crowded with teams and market-people, two
or three nights every week. Those were days when
landlords "poured out" whisky and brandy for their
patrons, and gave cordial welcome to the traveler who
carried his eatables in his wallet, enjoyed his coffee
and lunch in the "bar-room," paid a levy for his
bed, fed his own grain and hay to his horses and
groomed them, gave a tip to the hostler, and was good-
naturedly smiled upon by the jolly proprietor, who
pressed all, in genuine hospitality, to "stop again."
Time has wrought its changes upon the face of the
country and its business, not less marked than in the
manners and customs of the people. The wood-leaf
or timbered lands have gradually disappeared, until
but few groves are left; that remaining on the old
Norris estate, now owned by Dr. John Schrack, is
perhaps the largest. Log houses and barns have
nearly all given place to substantial stone and frame
improvements, neatly painted, indicating that sub-
stantial thrift and fondness for home comfort that
everywhere characterizes the permanently-settled
people of this region of country.

The commerce of this township has undergone
marked changes within the last thirty years. In
1850 Port Indian was an important point of local
traffic. Lumber, coal, plaster, flour and feed, groceries
and provisions were commodities dealt in by George
B. Rieff and his successor, Philip Harley. A short
distance below Port Indian, "Cherry-Tree Landing"
was constructed, and E. C. Boorse for many years
carried on the lumbering business there; between
these two points Jonas Ashenfelter built a landing
to transship coal for the supply of the Trooper Steam-
Mills. All of these places of business have gone into

disuse and the trade transferred to other points. The
Trooper Steam-Mills, built by Jesse L. Bean in 1847-
48, and operated for several years as saw and flour-
mills, and subsequently, in 1855-56, remodeled by
Dewalt Weber, and converted into cotton and woolen-
mills, and as such operated by Christopher Blount
and James Shaw, have also gone into disuse. The
older residents will recall the store kept by William
Hamill and Samuel Markley at the Trooper, more
recently those at Harley's Corner and Penn Square;
these have been closed, and of the six hotels that
public travel doubtless supported when the township
was created only two within the present limits of the
township are licensed, the one at Jeffersonville and
the other at Penn Square.

The villages¹ in the township heretofore noted by
writers are Jeffersonville, Norritonville, Penn Square
and Springtown, to which we may now add Hoover-
ton, or Hartranft Station, on the Stony Creek Rail-
road, at the point where it crosses the Germantown
turnpike. It is worthy of note that in the changes of
time, and within a century, the place where stood two
hotels, and (hence a village), where the first court in
the county was held and many important conventions
and assemblages in the history of the county occurred,
should become obscure, and should so remain until the
advent of railroads; and then should become the loca-
tion of a depot and place of business, promising to
absorb rival villages on either side of it. Stony Creek
flows by this new village, on which have been erected
five saw and grist-mills, only three of which are still
in use,—the Metz saw-mill, Wack's grist-mill and
Sheetz's grist-mill.

The Post-Office was first established in this town-
ship, January 1, 1829. It was located at Jeffersonville,
and the mails were received from the line of stage-
coaches that ran over the Ridge pike in going from
Philadelphia to Reading and thence to Pittsburgh.

Subsequently post-offices were established at Penn
Square and Norritonville. Within the last few years
the office at Penn Square has been changed in name
to Hartranft and located at Hartranft Station.

General Elections were first held in the town-
ship under the act of Assembly approved May 3,
1852. The first election was held at the public-
house of Reynard March, Jeffersonville, in the fol-
lowing October, and by the terms of the act they
were to be held alternately at the place first held
and at Penn Square, and all general elections have
thus been held since that date. Previously the vote
of Norriton was polled at the court-house, Norris-
town.

The mercantile appraiser for the year 1884 makes

¹ The villages of Norriton are all small in size, having the usual me-
chanic industries. Jeffersonville was noted for many years as the place
of manufacture of the famous Roberts and Foust plows; the former pat-
tern was patented by Seth Roberts, and were popular for many years
among the farmers of Eastern Pennsylvania. The Foust plow was not
patented, but acquired great favor by the superior workmanship of the
mechanic who made them, Henry W. Foust.

return of fifteen persons and places of public business in Norriton, viz.:

B. W. Baker, butcher; John E. Bean, merchandise; F. Brusch, flour and feed; Joseph Custer, butcher; A. S. Clouser, flour and feed; D. U. Cassel, merchandise; A. S. Davis, merchandise; D. C. Getty, agricultural implements; H. C. Hoover, merchandise; Hoover & Son, lumber and feed; Kennedy, butcher; T. L. Moore, butcher; E. E. Ritter, butcher; D. H. Ritter, live stock; R. F. Wood, butcher.

The Common School system provided for by the general acts of Assembly, 1834-36, went into operation about 1838-39. Inquiry made of those connected with educational affairs of the township fails to disclose the exact time, although we find Norriton noted among the early townships which took advantage of the system. Among the first directors who gave their aid and encouragement to the cause of popular education in the township were John Schrack, Daniel Getty, Robert Shannon, William Bean, A. W. Shearer¹ and Samuel Miller. As early as 1845 they employed a female teacher. The person referred to was Miss Sarah Carson, who taught for several years at the Indian Creek school-house. The innovation was severely criticised by many tax-payers, who thought the "big boys" could never be controlled by a "young lady teacher." Experience, however, demonstrated that she maintained one of the best-conducted schools in the district. In the period referred to some portions of the district were certainly noted for incorrigible "big boys." There are some gray-headed men, now residents of this township, who can recall with the writer the conduct of the scholars, greatly at variance with the uniform good behavior of the pupils of the present day. Charles Ames, a teacher in the Jeffersonville school, or "Yellow College," as it was facetiously termed in later years, being quite severe in his treatment of pupils, finally incurred the displeasure of the incorrigible boys of the old yellow school-house. A council of mischief was held and concerted action was at once agreed upon. Leaders remained at noon, while the teacher went to his dinner at a neighboring farm-house. The little children were induced to leave the school-room as soon as they had eaten their dinners, and, in less time than we can describe the event, the shutters were closed and bolted on the inside, the iron poker was used to fasten the door leading to the school-room, and the last boy stepped out of the south-side window upon a rail held for his footing, and there securely nailed up the last shutter to the window-sill, his accomplices aiding him to reach the ground in safety.

The cellar-door had been securely fastened from the

inside, and the work of "locking the teacher out" was done. Mr. Ames came at the appointed hour, and to his mortification found the house closed. None of the little pupils could tell who did it, while all the "big boys" were in the adjoining woodland "playing ball." By the aid of the small boys and a bar of iron that happened to be at hand the teacher pried open the nailed shutter and repossessed himself of the school-room.

The event was the subject of neighborhood gossip for the time, and the question was, who was to be the "master?" The "lock-out" took place on Thursday, and the "big boys" who planned and executed it did not return for study until the following Monday morning. Meantime, parents and directors had been informed, and the "boys" were all ordered to school, there to account for their conduct. After the opening exercises had taken place the absentees were called from their seats and paraded in front of the teacher's desk. Many of them were young men in size and weight. All had not been participants in the work of "locking out the teacher." A number had accompanied the leaders at the time of the event, and were induced to remain out of school until compelled to return by their parents. This fact was known to the teacher, who gave them the option of confessing their folly before the school or take the punishment to be inflicted; or, if unwilling to do either, then to suffer expulsion. Not one of the line wavered, not one made any acknowledgment of error or pleaded any excuse. Then came the final alternative, "Will you leave the school or suffer punishment?" The moment was of supreme interest to all present. There were little boys and gentle sisters who had big brothers in the line of insubordinates. Some heads were bowed in conscious shame; some mischievous eyes gazed steadily at the teacher; still others appeared stolid, having made up their minds to suffer the infliction, but none were willing to leave the school.

Opening his desk, the teacher took out a heavy oak ruler, and, taking number one by the hand, pressing the palm open, he inflicted a number of blows upon it, the severity of which was keenly felt and silently suffered. To all the others he meted out the same measure of punishment, and then all were dismissed and ordered to their seats. Thenceforth, Mr. Ames was "master" of the situation; but he was not a successful teacher, and never returned to the school after his term expired. We instance this episode in a Norriton school as an illustration of what our schools were forty and fifty years ago, as contrasted with those conducted under a different system of discipline now. Had the good-will of these pupils been sought after, had their confidence been obtained by kindly offices, instead of seeking to control them by arousing their fears, results would have been widely different, and the relations between pupil and teacher would have been respectful and affectionate.

The boys and girls of this period, not less than their

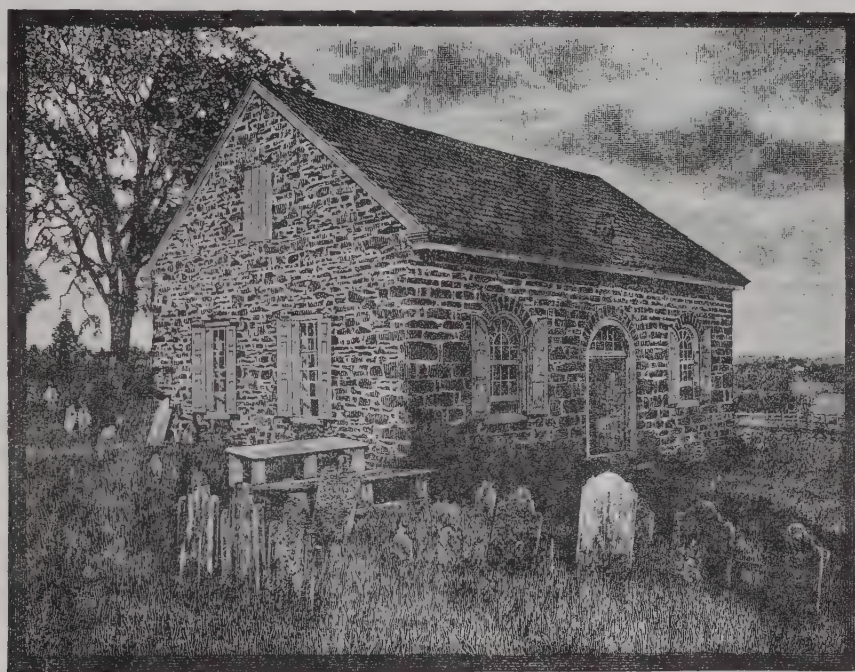
¹ The land on which the Indian Creek school-house and adjoining play-grounds stand, was given gratuitously by the heirs of the Norris estate, and the same is excepted out of the deed executed by A. W. Shearer and wife, to the present owners, so long as the same shall be used for educational purposes. When no longer thus used it reverts to the premises from which it was originally taken.

parents, are to be congratulated upon the disuse of punishments that made the school-room a terror to timid and innocent children, and upon the prevailing kindness, yet firmness, of teachers who have been able to preserve order and discipline among boys and young men in attendance upon the common schools throughout the county.

There are five public schools in Norriton township. They have one hundred and ninety-nine pupils enrolled, and are open eight months in the year. Teachers are paid thirty-eight dollars per month. Male and female teachers are employed, and receive equal salary.

Places of Religious Worship.—THE NORRITON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, located at the north corner

date as early as 1679. This, however, is traditional, and must be taken with some allowance for the natural zeal of the antiquarian. While circumstances point to greater antiquity than is generally conceded this place of worship, we have but little definite information of the congregation until about 1740. It is said that large accessions were made to the church, resulting from a general religious revival, which began in New Jersey under the ministrations of Rev. John Tennent, and found its way to this community in 1832. It is certain that a division occurred in this congregation in 1741, which resulted in building a new meeting-house, called New Providence, being the same congregation that is now, and has been for many years past, presided over by the Rev. H. S.



THE NORRITON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

of the township, where the line crosses the German-town turnpike, was the first built by that denomination in the county. It has been designated "the mother of all the Presbyterian Churches in this vicinity, and is among the oldest in the State."¹

Historians of this religious persuasion, Rev. Messrs. Ralston and Collins, claim that it was known as a place of burial as early as the year 1700. It is said that a date stone, which had fallen from the gable wall many years ago, was observed to bear

Rodenbaugh, in Lower Providence township. Occasional services are still held in this church and the burial-ground used for interments.

Among the families who have buried at this place are the familiar names of Armstrong, Hooven, McCrea, Porter, Darrah, Richards, Thompson, Patterson, McGlathery and Fitzwater. Colonel Archibald Thompson, of Revolutionary fame, who died November 1, 1779, in his thirty-ninth year, is buried at this place, as is also Colonel Christopher Stuart.

THE CENTENNIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—This modern and beautiful church was built in 1876, and is located at Jeffersonville. It takes the place of the former Presbyterian Church, founded about 1841, and located on the Ridge turnpike, near the Trooper village. The congregation were originally of the

¹ The old stone building still stands, and in the graveyard adjoining it there were discovered, several years since, some tombstones dated between 1689 and 1700. It is said also that at the same time and place a sandstone tablet was found bearing the date of 1679.—*Historical Sketch of First Presbyterian Church, Norristown, Pa., 1876, by J. Grier Ralston, D. D.*

Providence Church, and represented the "new school" element of that denomination in a division which occurred in 1840-41. Among its founders were Henry Loucks, Christian Weber, James Smith, Joseph Smith, Daniel Croll and others. The cornerstone of the new edifice was laid July 4, 1875. The chapel was opened for public worship January 2, 1876, and the church building was dedicated Sunday, October 1, 1876. The building committee was appointed May 5, 1875, viz.: James Shaw, Dr. David Schrack, Joseph D. Smith, Michael Reed, Francis Whiting and the Rev. Chas. Collins, pastor. Although the edifice cost over twenty thousand dollars, the public announcement was made at the time of dedication that "all claims against the church property have been liquidated, and it is declared *free of debt*." The officers of the church at the time of its dedication were Rev. Chas. Collins, pastor; Elders, James Smith, John C. Weber, Francis Whiting, Michael Reed and Dr. David Schrack; Trustees, Dr. David Schrack, A. L. Davis, G. W. Brown, Michael Reed, Francis Whiting, H. S. Parmalee and Samuel Scheetz.

A Sabbath-school has been maintained in connection with this church since its organization in 1841-42.

Auxiliary Branch of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society.—President, Mrs. M. Wallace; Secretary, Mrs. H. W. Whiting; Treasurer, Miss M. W. Snyder.

The following pastors have officiated at this church: Rev. Chas. F. Diver, 1842 to 1844; Rev. N. S. Aller, 1844 to 1848; Rev. Charles Wack, 1848 to 1849; Rev. George Foot, 1849 to 1851; Rev. William Fulton, 1851 to 1853; Rev. Saml. Helffenstein, 1853 to 1854; Rev. A. J. Snyder, 1854 to 1865; Rev. Chas. Collins, 1865 to present time. The Revs. Messrs. Diver, Wack, Foot and Helffenstein are deceased.

BURR'S MEETING-HOUSE, located at Norritonville, is a one-story stone building, and has always been free to the use of all evangelical denominations. It was built by Marmaduke Burr, who still survives at an advanced age, and resides in Philadelphia. The place is kept in repair, and used for all the purposes originally contemplated, under the direction of a local board of trustees. A Sabbath-school has been maintained in connection with this place of worship for many years.

Religious worship at stated times was for many years held in the second story of the old Jeffersonville school-house. These services were conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Rodenbaugh and Trites, the latter at the time pastor of the Lower Providence Baptist congregation. Rev. John Rees, of Norriton, also officiated from time to time at the evening meetings held at this place.¹ There are two public halls in this

township; the first was built at Penn Square in the year 1847; the same building is used for public-school purposes. The other is known as Jefferson Hall, located at Jeffersonville, built 1872. The audience-room will seat three hundred people. Both these halls are used for public entertainments, public meetings, festivals, etc.

A public library was founded in connection with Jefferson Hall, 1873-74, and several hundred volumes of well-selected books were purchased and placed in substantial cases for circulation in the neighborhood. It was organized upon a stock subscription basis, and for a time was usefully employed in furnishing entertaining and profitable reading-matter to the people of that vicinity. The collection of books and property of the company still remain in the library-room, but have not been used for the last few years, nor has the number of volumes been increased by purchases or contributions since it was organized.

Among the ancient organizations of the township we must note the Jefferson Express Horse Company, organized prior to 1840, and among the most efficient in the county in the detection of thieves and recovery of stolen horses. In its early history its members did most excellent service, and prided themselves in horsemanship and in the ownership of fleet-footed riding-horses. The company is still in existence, and its annual meetings are held in the month of December of each year at the Jeffersonville Hotel. In these latter days of express-trains by rail, of telegraphs and telephones, horse-stealing has become a "lost vice" in this locality, and if, perchance, an old-fashioned thief should attempt his vocation, he is certain to be intercepted before he can reach the "Jersey Pines" or the famous "Lancaster Gap."

The people of Norriton, from time immemorial, have evinced a fondness for the useful associations of civil life. We cannot recall the time when the township was the headquarters of a military organization, unless it was of the "Home Guards," in 1861-62. Militia trainings were held in the township, the last of which was commanded by Captain Peter G. Richards, in 1841. Parades of the First Troop and the "Washington Greys," the first commanded by Captain John Mathews and the latter by Captain Jesse B. Davis, were of frequent occurrence thirty and forty years ago, and a number of the public-spirited young men of the township were members of the organizations named. But the history of Norriton is without a military organization exclusively her own. It had, however, its debating and literary societies. Many of our readers will recall the forensic efforts made at the Indian Creek, Jeffersonville, Eight Square and Penn Square school-houses by the members of debating societies organized at different times at the places named, of which Colonel Thomas P. Knox, Alban Thomas, Col-

¹ A Sabbath-school was organized and regularly taught for many years in this building prior to the founding of the "New School Church," near the Trooper, in 1841-42. Among its earliest superintendents was the Hon. Thomas P. Knox. Among its lady teachers were the Misses Shannon, Weber, Hamil, Bean and Stinson. Stephen P. Hamil was for

many years librarian, and the late Rev. Owen Shannon was among the young men prominently connected with the school.

onel Henry Beyer, Teachers Latimore, Walker, McCloskey, Burnside and Bechtel were leading spirits. Subsequently, literary associations took the place of debating societies, among which was the "Calliope." Two annual public entertainments were given by this association at the Indian Creek school-house in 1856-57. The attendance upon the last of these "literary exhibitions" was estimated to be between one and two thousand persons. An elaborate stage was erected at the south gable of the school-house with seats for a large audience. The programme, of music, declamations, original essays and dramatic personations was executed to the satisfaction of the public, and the event was pronounced a success by the local press of the period. Literary and musical entertainments were frequent in Norriton. As early as 1836 a musical entertainment was held in the old Yellow School-house, in the second story. The room was crowded, and in the midst of the performance the floor gave way in the centre of the room, precipitating many to the floor below, with injuries of a more or less serious character; none, however, were fatally hurt. In later years Hon. Hiram C. Hoover has taught a number of musical classes in the township and given numerous public concerts of an entertaining and instructive character.

The Yellow Club, of Norriton, was for a time an association of interest to those composing it from 1848-51. Its chief object was to make an annual pilgrimage to the "Yellow Springs" of Chester County, a watering-place or resort of great popularity in those days, and an "excursion" to the place during the "season" was an event of more than ordinary interest in the social lives of the ladies and gentlemen composing the club. There were no cheap and popular excursions to the sea-shore, Coney Island, up the Hudson and elsewhere in those days, and hence the "drive to the springs," the glimpse of fashionable life there to be seen, the exhibition of dress, the music, the grand dinner and the extravagant price paid for it, the beautiful grounds, the curative water,—these considerations were subject matter of rare importance, and the "club" made the most of them on their annual pilgrimages.

Among the families connected with the organization were Matheys, Bean, Crawford, Owen, Schrack, Shearer, Markley, Weber, Carson and others. The club dissolved by mutual consent about 1852-53. The farmers of the township were among the first to organize an agricultural society, the particulars of which are referred to elsewhere.¹

The advantages of good husbandry are everywhere manifest in the well-tilled and substantially improved farms and commodious residences that make up the taxable values of the township.

Number of taxables, 417; value of improved land, \$1,156,580; value of unimproved lands, \$28,240; assessed value of 386 horses and mules, \$24,650; assessed value of 919 horned cattle, \$27,790; value of house-

hold goods in excess of exemptions, \$900; value of all property taxable for county purposes, \$1,238,160.

The Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad, recently constructed, traverses the township, running parallel with the river, with a passenger depot on the Township Line road, opposite Port Kennedy.

JOHN BULL was a native of Providence township, Montgomery Co., where the family had resided for several generations. In the beginning of 1771 he lived in Limerick, where he resided till he purchased the mill and plantation of Charles Norris, the following 17th of September, where is now the present borough of Norristown. He was at this time a justice of the County Court, which office he held for several years. In January, 1775, he was one of the twelve members of Philadelphia County that met in a provincial convention, whose object was to get the Assembly to pass a law to prohibit the future importation of slaves into the colony. This same year, in consequence of the Revolutionary troubles, the Assembly authorized the enlistment of a battalion of eight companies for the Continental service, to be under the command of Colonel Bull, until January, 1778. With three others, he represented Philadelphia County in the convention that framed the Constitution of the State, and which was adopted the 28th of September, 1776. In November of this year he disposed of all his property in Norriton township to Dr. William Smith, of Philadelphia, for the sum of six thousand pounds. He was confirmed a justice of the courts by the Assembly, August 31, 1778. Not long after this date he moved to Berkeley County, Va., where he erected a mill on the Opequan Creek. He was still living there in 1795, which is the last we know of him. Benjamin Bittenhouse, a brother of the celebrated philosopher, and who was commissioned by Governor Mifflin, in 1791, as one of the associate judges of the Court of Common Pleas of this county, was married to a daughter of General Bull. Wm. Bull, who was probably a brother, resided in Norriton township in 1770, where he had purchased a farm of Henry Connard.

ANDREW PORTER.—Robert Porter was a native of Ireland and emigrated in early life to this country, and settled in Worcester township, Montgomery Co., where his son, Andrew Porter, was born September 24, 1743. His father furnished him with a good education, and in the spring of 1767 he removed to Philadelphia and took charge of an English and mathematical school until the spring of 1776. On the 19th of June he was commissioned by Congress a captain of marines, and ordered on board the frigate "Effingham." He afterwards left the navy and joined the army as a captain, and served with great gallantry at Trenton, Princeton and Brandywine. At Valley Forge he was major of a regiment of artillery, and during the war was in considerable service. With David Rittenhouse, in the spring of 1785, he was appointed a commissioner on the part of Pennsylvania to ascertain the boundary be-

¹ See chapter on Agriculture.

tween this State and Virginia. In the spring of 1787, with Andrew Ellicott, he commenced the survey of the northern boundary of the State, which was completed by the middle of the following November. While engaged on this work, he says, "The Indians appear friendly and have expressed no dissatisfaction to our running the line." For his services Governor Snyder, the 4th of April, 1809, appointed him surveyor-general of Pennsylvania, which office he held till his death, which occurred November 16, 1813, at the age of seventy years. He died at Harrisburg, where he was buried with military honors in the Presbyterian burying-ground, and a neat white marble monument designates the spot. At the close of the Revolution Mr. Porter was colonel of the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment of Artillery and subsequently brigadier and major-general of the Second Division of the militia. It is said that President Madison offered him the commission of brigadier-general of the American army, and also the office of Secretary of War, both of which he declined. Mr. Porter resided in the upper part of the borough of Norristown, near the Ridge turnpike, in the mansion recently occupied by the late Colonel Thomas P. Knox. Robert Porter, the general's father, died in 1770, at the age of seventy-two years, and is buried in the Norriton Presbyterian graveyard, where a large stone is erected to his memory. The sons of Andrew Porter have been quite distinguished. General David R. Porter was Governor of Pennsylvania from 1838 to 1844. General James M. Porter was a member of Assembly, president judge of the Twenty-second Judicial District, and Secretary of War under President Tyler. George B. Porter was judge, United States marshal of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and subsequently Governor of Michigan, in which office he died in 1834, in his forty-fourth year. All these sons were natives of Montgomery County.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

HIRAM C. HOOVER.

Judge Hoover is a descendant of Levis Henry Hoover, whose father, the first member of the family to emigrate, resided in Bucks County until 1800, when he made Gwynedd township, Montgomery Co., his home, and followed his trade of a tailor in connection with the cultivation of a farm of two hundred acres, purchased by him. He married Miss Margaret Kern and had children,—Christian, Jacob, Philip, Elizabeth (Mrs. John Rile) and Mary (Mrs. William Kneeder). Philip succeeded to his father's occupations in Gwynedd township, and married Miss Mary, daughter of Frederick W. Conrad, of Worcester township, whose children were Frederick W., Susanna (deceased), Julia Ann (deceased), Maria (Mrs.

Samuel Linton), Harry (deceased), Hiram C., Albert C., Elizabeth (Mrs. Daniel B. Kieffer), Andrew T. and four who died in infancy. Hiram C. Hoover was born on the 23d of October, 1822, on the homestead in Gwynedd, and until the age of twenty-four interested himself in the various pursuits peculiar to the farm, having during the mean time received a rudimentary education at the neighboring public and select schools. Judge Hoover was gifted with rare musical taste, which was early cultivated and properly directed. At the age of eighteen he became an instructor, and for twenty-five years continued this favorite vocation, including both vocal and instrumental music in which he was equally proficient. He executed with skill upon several instruments, devoting his abilities especially to music of a sacred character and the formation and direction of church-choirs. He was, on the 4th of March, 1847, married to Miss Margaret, youngest daughter of Frederick and Sarah Dull, of Whitemarsh. Their children are William A., Irvin W. (deceased), Sarah D. (Mrs. James W. Hercus, of Richmond, Va.), and Mary M. (Mrs. Albertus Hallman, of Norriton). After his marriage Judge Hoover leased the farm for a period of two years, and in 1849 purchased his present home. Here his efforts were directed to the cultivation and improvement of a productive estate until 1870, when his son succeeded to the farming interest. He erected an attractive residence in the immediate vicinity and retired for the time being from active employment.

Judge Hoover's energetic nature found little to satisfy it in a life of inactivity, and on the completion of the Stony Creek Railroad he established a coal, feed and lumber business at the station known as Hooverton, opening, two years later, in connection with it a general store.

In politics the judge is a Democrat. He was elected justice of the peace in 1851, and served for eleven years as school director of the township, having presided at one of the conventions for the election of a county superintendent of schools. He was also, for three successive years, chairman of the County Democratic Committee. Judge Hoover was elected to the State Legislature in 1861 and re-elected in 1862 and 1863, having served as chairman of the committee on agriculture and done other important committee work. He was, in 1865, elected associate judge of the Montgomery County courts, and at the expiration of his first term re-elected for an additional five years. He was for five years a trustee of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., and now fills the same office in connection with Ursinus College, at Collegeville. He has been, since its organization, the president of the Norristown and Central Square Turnpike Company. He is a prominent Mason, and member of Charity Lodge, No. 190, of Norristown, as also of the Royal Arch Chapter of the borough. He was, in 1841, made a member of the First Troop of Montgomery County, and served during the riots that occurred in Philadelphia

in 1844. He was for six years one of its musicians and later served as first lieutenant until the disbanding of the company. Judge Hoover, in 1838, became a member of Boehm's Reformed Church, of Blue Bell, in which he has been an elder since 1856, and was also president of the consistory for the whole period, with the exception of one year. He has frequently served as delegate to various church bodies and been, since 1875, treasurer of the Philadelphia classis. His zealous efforts in behalf of the good work of the Sunday-school have resulted in his repeated election as superintendent and instructor of the Bible-classes, in which labor of love he has few superiors.

deceased, of Norris Hall, the estate of the maternal parent having descended from the Norris family, who purchased it from the son of William Penn, the founder of the colony. In the spring of 1835, Mr. Shearer settled in Norriton township, on a part of the Norris estate known as the "Buttonwood Farm," comprising one hundred and fifty-six acres. This property he purchased in 1861 and substantially improved. In the management of this estate he pursued the life of a successful farmer, and after the marriage and settlement of all his children he sold the premises, in 1876, and retired to his present residence, at the Trooper village, three miles northwest of Norristown. Mr.



Hiram C Hoover

AUGUSTUS W. SHEARER.

Augustus W. Shearer was born July 12, 1812. He is the eldest son of the late John Shearer, Esq., deceased, a citizen of Lower Providence township, who was prominently identified with public affairs, representing Montgomery County in the General Assembly during the years 1830-33, and was subsequently elected Register of Wills, 1839, and held the office of justice of the peace in Lower Providence township for a period of twenty-five years.

His son, the subject of this sketch, was married, December 9, 1834, to Miss Eunice Norris Schrack, the only daughter of the late John and Mary Norris Schrack,

Shearer has lived an unostentatious life, but fulfilling the public duties of citizenship with fidelity and exactness. He took an active part in securing the adoption of the common-school system in Norriton township, and was one of the early school directors elected by the people, an office which he held for nineteen years. During a part of this period he was secretary of the board. The Indian Creek school was under his immediate direction; he was among the first to employ female teachers, the trial being made in the school under his management about 1844. He was one of the six citizens of Norriton township who originated the Montgomery County Agricultural

Society, in 1847, and drafted the first constitution for its government, and the rules and regulations of the first annual exhibition of the society, held at Jeffersonville. He was a member of the First Troop of Montgomery County, a cavalry organization whose origin antedates the war of 1812, and whose membership for more than half of a century comprised the most intelligent and energetic young men residing near the center of the county. In 1846 he was commissioned colonel of the Sixty-third Regiment of the Pennsylvania militia, at the time this regiment was connected with the Second Brigade, Second Division, of the State service. Mr. Shearer was clerk of the board of county

the enjoyment of well-earned repose, he takes an active interest in all public matters that pertain to the progress and welfare of the community in which he resides. Mr. and Mrs. Shearer celebrated their golden wedding on the day and evening of December 9, 1884.

SAMUEL RITTENHOUSE.

William Rittenhouse resided in Montgomery County, where he was an industrious farmer. His children were David, William, Henry, Catherine and Jesse. Henry was a native of Montgomery County,



A. W. Shearer

commissioners for five years, 1856-61, and while in this position he performed the duties of the office with entire satisfaction to the public. Colonel Shearer was early in life identified with the Democratic party, but with many others took issue with its leaders upon the subject of slavery. He supported Stephen A. Douglas for President in 1860, and subsequently gave a friendly and active support to the administration of Abraham Lincoln and to all measures for the suppression of the great Rebellion. Mr. Shearer and family have long been connected with the Presbyterian Church at Lower Providence, under the pastorate of the Rev. H. S. Rodenbaugh. Although living in retirement and

where he learned the trade of a weaver, but afterwards became a farmer. By his marriage to Catherine Carl were born children,—William, Lydia Ann, Eliza and Catherine. By a second union, with Mary Shoup, of Upper Providence township, his children were John, Mary A., Sarah A., Samuel, John (2d), Henry, Ellen, Harriet, Lavinia, Elmira and Joseph. Samuel was born on the 1st of January, 1830, in Upper Providence township, Montgomery Co., and in his youth attended the schools most convenient to his home. He then engaged in labor on the farm until his eighteenth year, when he left home and sought an independent career. On the death of his father he returned home

and rendered valuable service to his mother in the management of the farm. Mr. Rittenhouse was on the 2d of January, 1862, married to Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Baker, of Norriton township, and has children,—Mary Ann, Josephine and Bessie. After his marriage Mr. Rittenhouse for five years rented a farm, at the expiration of which time he purchased his present home, embracing one hundred and fourteen acres of productive land, which is devoted to dairying and butter-making. Mr. Rittenhouse, though not active in politics, has, as a Democrat, held such township offices as school director, assessor, etc., and been inspector of the Montgomery County prison.

whose children were Charlotte, Susan, William, Christopher, Sophia, Henry and David. William, whose life is here briefly reviewed, was born August 3, 1803, on the homestead farm, with which he has been actively identified during his whole life. He was early taught the value of habits of industry, and when a lad assisted his father in his daily pursuits. Receiving but a limited education, he chose a farmer's life as that most congenial to his tastes, and on the death of his father received, as his portion, one-sixth of the estate, the remaining shares being secured by purchase. He married, in 1831, Miss Susanna, daughter of John Highley of Lower Providence,



Samuel Rittenhouse

He was also one of the committee to carry out the plans for the erection of a memorial stone to the memory of David Rittenhouse, the philosopher, in 1884. He is a member and treasurer of the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church.

WILLIAM RITTENHOUSE.

The subject of this biography resides upon the ancestral land, once occupied by his grandfather, Henry Rittenhouse, who married Sophia Ernhart, and had children,—Christopher, William, Wilhelmina, David, Joseph and Henry. David, who settled on the homestead in Norriton, married Rachel Zimmerman,

whose children are George W., Rachel, Mary, Charlotte (deceased), David (deceased), William and Susan, (deceased).

The death of Mrs. Rittenhouse occurred in 1848. Mr. Rittenhouse, the first year subsequent to his marriage, resided with his maternal grandmother, and on his return to the homestead worked the farm for sixteen years on shares, when it became his property. Though always active and industrious, he has for many years abandoned hard labor, leaving the burden and toil to younger and more vigorous hands. Mr. Rittenhouse cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson, and afterward became a Whig. He now votes the

Republican ticket, but he has never sought office, either local or otherwise. He worships with the St. John's Protestant Episcopal congregation of Norris-town, in which church he is a pew-holder.

MICHAEL REED.

Michael Reed, the great-grandfather of Michael Reed, emigrated from Manheim Palatinate, on the Rhine, Germany, about 1728, and settled in Hatfield township, Montgomery Co., Pa. His wife's family fled from Switzerland on account of persecution, and he for the same cause from Germany. He had three sons and five daughters, named, respectively, Jacob,

John, Andrew, Margaret, Magdalene, Catharine, Elizabeth and Eve; John was killed by lightning in his twenty-third year. The others all lived to an advanced age.

In 1793, Jacob Reed sold his farm in Hatfield and purchased one in New Britain township, Bucks Co., on the County Line road, dividing Montgomery and Bucks Counties. On this farm he resided, and here his wife died August 5, 1804, aged sixty-five years, six months and twelve days. The remaining days of his life were spent with his son Andrew on his farm, where he died November 2, 1820, aged ninety years, four months and four days. His remains lie buried



Wm Bitterhouse

Michael, Andrew, Catharine, Frances, —, Elizabeth and Eve.

Jacob, the eldest, and the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Hatfield township on the 28th day of June, 1730, and purchased a farm near the present Hatfield Station, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, the title for which he received from Thomas and Richard Penn, who were proprietors and Governors-in-chief in and over the province of Pennsylvania, by their patent dated the 23d of February, 1770.

Jacob Reed married Magdalene Leidy, to whom nine children were born, named Jacob, Philip,

in the Leidy burying-ground beside his wife and others of his family.

Jacob Reed was a man of much prominence in his day. He was active and influential as a citizen, filling several positions of public trust in the vicinity. In the church he also took a deep interest, worshipping at the Indian Field Reformed Church, not far distant, in which he served as an elder for a number of years. He was also prominent and active as a defender of his country during the Revolutionary war, serving under General Washington as colonel of the Pennsylvania militia and participating in the battles of Trenton, Germantown, Brandywine, etc. He escaped

unhurt on the field of battle, but on one occasion, when at home visiting his family, he was waylaid by Tories, who first shot him through the leg, then tied him to a tree, tarred and feathered him and commenced digging the grave in which they purposed burying him. Before completing this last act they were discovered, and fled, when he was released from his perilous situation. The parties engaged in this transaction escaped from the country, and their property was subsequently confiscated. On another occasion, while passing along the highway, he was shot at by a Hessian, who lay concealed in a fence-corner, the bullet grazing his head. Again, on another occasion, while the British were lying in Philadelphia,

Reed removed to his farm in Hilltown township, which adjoined New Britain, which he cultivated until his children grew to mature years and left him. About the year 1846 he sold the farm and purchased a home near the Hilltown Church, where, on June 1, 1856, his daughter Abigail died, in the forty-sixth year of her age, and on June 3, 1861, his wife died, aged seventy-four years. The remaining days of his life were spent with his youngest daughter, Sarah. The last eight years were spent in total blindness. His death occurred June 10, 1869, aged eighty-eight years and seventeen days. During his life he was strictly honest in all his dealings, devoted to his family and beloved by his neighbors.



Michael H. Reed

they engaged in a marauding expedition to his home while he was on a furlough, and took him prisoner. They were about firing the gun already pointed at him, when the British officer's wife interfered and saved his life. They, however, took his best horse and despoiled him of much other valuable property. Andrew Reed, being the youngest of his children, remained with him and aided in the cultivation of the farm. About 1807 he married Mary Hartman, to whom five children were born, named Jacob, Michael, Julian, Abigail and Sarah, all natives of New Britain township. Jacob and Abigail are deceased; the others still survive.

The year following the death of his father, Andrew

Both Mr. Reed and his wife were consistent Christians and worshiped at the church of the Evangelical Association in Hilltown, where their remains lie buried beside those of their daughter Abigail.

Michael Reed was born October 24, 1809, and left his home at the age of seventeen years to learn the hatting business, which occupation he followed during his first two years at Skippackville, and in 1834 removed to Philadelphia, where he continued the same occupation until about 1848. He then retired from business and removed to Bucks County, where, on February 15, 1852, he married Mary A. Rockafellow, to whom three children were born,—Franklin, Wiloughby and Mary.

Franklin is engaged in the hardware business at National City, Southern California, where he married and is now living. Willoughby is by profession a graduate of pharmacy and also a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He is married and practicing medicine in Jeffersonville, Montgomery Co., Pa. Mary is engaged in teaching.

Michael Reed has resided for the last twenty-eight years in Jeffersonville. He is in religion a Presbyterian, and elder in the Centennial Presbyterian Church of Jeffersonville, which office he has held for many years.

Norriton, where, with the exception of a brief period, his life was spent. He was united in marriage to Mary, daughter of George Freas, of Whitmarsh township, and had children,—Hiram, Mary, Jesse, George, Ann, Myra, Hannah, Samuel, Samuel (second), Isaac, Leah and Rachel. Jesse was born on the 12th of September, 1823, in Whitmarsh township, where he remained until eleven years of age. In 1834 he removed with the family to Norriton township, on the farm now occupied by him, where his father was a successful farmer and also followed his trade of blacksmith. After very modest educational opportunities



Jesse Roberts

JESSE ROBERTS.

Ellis Roberts, who was of Welsh descent, and the probable pioneer of the family in Montgomery County, was the first to pursue the blacksmith's craft in that county. He died in 1775, and his wife, Mary, in 1781. Their son Levi, the great-grandfather of Jesse Roberts, resided in Norriton township, and was by trade a shoemaker, having made shoes for the Revolutionary army while encamped at Valley Forge.

His children were Mary, Ruth and Jesse, the last-named having married Elizabeth Davis, who was also of Welsh extraction, and had children,—Margaret, Levi, Samuel, Jesse, Isaac, Charles, Job and Mary. Samuel was born on the 1st of September, 1795, in

he learned the trade of a carpenter, and finding a demand for his skill, continued it until 1849, when his presence was rendered necessary on the farm, which he superintended for his father. The homestead was sold in 1868, and a portion purchased by him embracing sufficient land to pursue the healthful occupations of a farmer. Mr. Roberts, in 1851, obtained a patent on a grain and seed fan he invented, and for several years engaged in their manufacture. They were in large demand, received premiums from various organizations and were conceded to be at the time the best machines of their character in the market. Mr. Roberts, having abandoned manufacturing, has of late devoted himself exclusively to farming. He has been

since 1867 secretary of the Norristown and Centre Square Turnpike and Road Company. In politics he was formerly a Whig, and found it easy in the organization of the Republican party to espouse its principles, though he has never sought nor accepted office. He was reared in the faith of the Society of Friends.

REV. JOHN L. REESE.

Evan Reese, the grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, was descended from Welsh parents, and resided in Upper Providence township. He was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Bell, and had children,—Daniel, Samuel, Benjamin, John, Evan

he purchased the farm in Norriton township which is now the residence of his widow and son, where much of the time not given to ministerial work was devoted to farming. He was married, in 1831, to Miss Mary, daughter of William Johnson, of Worcester township, Montgomery Co. Their only son, William J., pursues the life of an agriculturalist. Mr. Reese later in life studied theology, and believing that the gospel should be free to all men, gave his services to the churches to which he ministered without compensation, at Valley Forge, Goshen, Chester Co., at Lower Providence and elsewhere at Baptist Churches of the county. His Abolition sentiments led to affiliation with the Republican party in politics, though never serving



REV. JOHN L. REESE.

and Sarah. Of these, Benjamin was a native of Upper Providence, and married Jane Lloyd, whose children were Thomas, David, John L., Samuel, Eliza (Mrs. Benjamin Johnson), Hannah (Mrs. Jacob Johnson), and Margaret, the last-named being the only survivor. John L. was born on the 18th of June, 1804, in Upper Providence township, and received in his youth but limited advantages of education. He, however, cultivated habits of observation and thought which were of more service than the knowledge derived from books. He early engaged in teaching, the summer months being devoted to labor on the farm of his father and the winter to the various schools at different times under his charge. At the age of twenty-five, desiring to become independent

actively in its ranks. His death occurred May 2, 1861, in his fifty-seventh year.

WILLIAM J. REESE.

William J. Reese, the grandson of Benjamin and Jane Lloyd Reese and the son of Rev. John L. and Mary Johnson Reese, was born on the 15th of November, 1834, in Norriton township, where he has been a life-long resident. His youth was devoted to the improvement of such opportunities as were offered at the neighboring schools of his township, after which he became a pupil of the Treemount Seminary, Norristown. He for a while pursued the avocation of a teacher, but ultimately returned to the paternal roof

and engaged in the labor incident to a farmer's life. On the death of his father the property became his by inheritance, and is now, as before, his home. Mr. Reese was married, on the 10th of February, 1870, to Miss Anna, daughter of John Hardy, of Lower Providence township, whose children are John W., Ella May and William J., Jr. Mr. Reese's known ability and integrity have caused his services to be frequently in demand in the capacity of guardian and as the custodian of momentous trusts. Though a Republican in politics, his interest in matters of public

John Sanders, of West Philadelphia, and had children,—Emily, Hester, Susannah, Anna, Zoe, Mary, Sarah, Jane, Elmira, Joseph and John S. The last-named son was born on the 21st of November, 1828, in Germantown, though a part of his youth was spent in Delaware County, Pa. He became while a lad a pupil of the common school, and when sufficiently advanced in years, engaged in farming, with his father. He was in 1854 married to Rachel Haws, daughter of Samuel Haws, of Norristown. Their children are Ada B., Hamilton, J. Wilmer, Lilius M.



Wm. J. Reese

concern is evinced simply by the casting of his ballot, neither the honors of office nor its rewards having for him attractions. Mr. Reese and his family are worshippers at the Baptist Church of Lower Providence.

JOHN S. HARDING.

Mr. Harding is descended from English stock. John Harding, his father, resided during his early life in Germantown, Pa., and later purchased a farm at Eagleville, in Lower Providence township, to which he removed. He married Elizabeth, step-daughter of

(Mrs. Edwin K. Kneule, of Norristown) and Alice G. Mr. Harding, soon after his marriage, rented the farm of his father-in-law, which for several years he cultivated, purchasing, in 1872, the valuable property in Norriton township which is his present home. Though engaged in general farming, he has devoted much attention to the products of the dairy, in which he has been remarkably successful. Mr. Harding is a Republican in his political associations, and though active in politics, has aspired to no local office other than that of school director of his township. In his



John Knight

religious belief he is a Presbyterian and a supporter of the church of that denomination at Jeffersonville, where the family worship.

WILLIAM KNIGHT, SR.

William Knight, the grandfather of the subject of this biographical sketch, emigrated from England and settled in Cecil County, Md., where he became the owner of a tract of land embracing one thousand acres, and ranked as one of the leading agriculturalists of the county. Among his sons was Thomas, who married Ann Kirk, of the same county, to whom were born children,—William, Emily, Lydia Ann, Levi

period of eighteen years in the latter place. He was married, on the 9th of September, 1841, to Jane, daughter of Colonel Samuel H. Coats, of Upper Merion. Their children are Margaret A. (Mrs. Joseph Frantz), Emily (Mrs. John R. Pugh), Samuel C., William T., Gertrude (Mrs. Harry T. Walter), Grace I. (wife of Dr. T. L. Adams), Blanche E. (Mrs. T. R. Vernon), Paul G. and two who are deceased. Mr. Knight eventually left Germantown and became a resident of Chester County, where for eighteen years he cultivated a farm. In 1881 he purchased a farm and residence in Norriton township, near Norristown, and continued actively employed until his death, on the 8th of July,



John S. Harding

and Thomas, of whom Lydia Ann (Mrs. John Summers) and Emily (Mrs. Henry Sheaff) are the only survivors. William was born March 29, 1812, in Cecil County, Md. After a plain English education he became an apprentice to the trade of a carpenter, which, however, engaged his attention for a brief period only. He gratified his taste for travel by an extended tour in the West, which was made a source, not only of diversion, but profit, and on returning became a contractor and builder, constructing various bridges for the Pennsylvania Railroad when under the auspices of the State, in 1832. Removing to Germantown, he continued his business as a builder, residing for a

1884. Mr. Knight bore a reputation for great ability in business transactions, as also for the most scrupulous integrity, his influence being always on the side of morality and religion. The principles of justice and mercy were exemplified in his daily walk and conversation. His religious training was that of the Society of Friends, though since his residence in Norriton a worshiper with the congregation of the Old Swedes Church (Protestant Episcopal), of Bridgeport.

WILLIAM R. KENNEDY.

The Kennedy family trace their lineage from Ireland. William Kennedy, the father of the sub-

ject of this biography, resided in Easttown township, Chester Co., Pa., where he was the owner of a productive farm. He married Esther daughter of David Robinson, of the same county, whose children were Margaret (deceased), Hetty Ann (Mrs. John Dampman), Rachel, Alexander (deceased), William R., Robert (deceased), and Elizabeth (Mrs. Peter Supplee, deceased). William R. was born March 23, 1816, in Easttown township, Chester Co., and devoted his early youth to acquiring such education as the schools near his home afforded. His time was then occupied in labor upon the land owned

Co., but in 1848 found superior advantages offered in the purchase of a farm of about one hundred acres from the estate of Jesse Bean (deceased), located one quarter of a mile southwest of Jeffersonville, in Norriton township, where he remained pursuing the avocation of a farmer until 1870, when his present home, at Jeffersonville, in the same township, was purchased. Having been from his youth accustomed to habits of industry, his willing hands now find occupation in the improvement of the land about his home. Mr. Kennedy has, as a Democrat, served the township in various capacities, though not active in



W. R. Kennedy

by his father until 1845, when, on the 20th of February of that year, he was married to Miss Abigail E., daughter of Peter Supplee, of Schuylkill township, Chester Co., Pa. The children of this marriage are William (deceased); B. Franklin, married to Eliza, daughter of James Smith, of Montgomery County; John S., who is united to Susan, daughter of Thomas P. Potts, of Norristown; Emma S. (Mrs. Abner Cornog); and Robinson, whose wife was Maggie, daughter of Benson Schrader, of Armstrong County, Pa. Mr. Kennedy, in 1847, two years after his marriage, removed to a farm in Tredyffrin township, Chester

public matters. He is a member of the Jeffersonville Presbyterian Church, and among its foremost supporters.

FRANCIS NACE.

Mr. Nace is of German descent, his grandfather having been De Walt Nace, who resided in Upper Salford township, where he was a representative farmer. His wife was a Miss Barndt, whose children were five sons and four daughters, among whom was Christian, born on the homestead October 18, 1785,

where he was both a distiller and a farmer on the land formerly the property of his great-grandfather. He was united in marriage to Susanna, daughter of Philip Singmaster, their children being Francis, Samuel S. and Mary Ann. Francis, whose birth occurred at the paternal home on the 3d of June, 1820, at the age of eleven years, removed to the farm which is his present home, in Norriton township, his father having purchased the property. He was educated at the common schools, and early instructed in the various departments of farm labor, first assisting his father, and later superintending his business. On the death of the latter he inherited a portion of the

Providence township, whose two children, Bertha Nace and Frank John, reside with their parents and grandparents on the homestead. Mr. Nace is a Democrat in politics, but has invariably declined official position either in the township or county. He has been on frequent occasions appointed guardian, and held various positions of responsibility and trust. His religious convictions are in harmony with the creed of the Reformed Church, his membership being in connection with the church in Franconia township.

SAMUEL F. JARRETT.

The progenitor of the Jarrett family emigrated from



Francis Nace

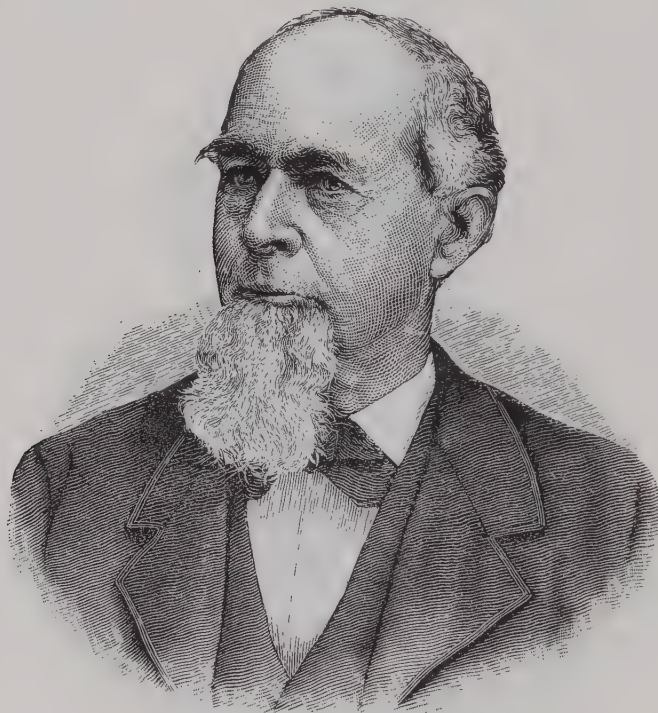
property, and purchased the remainder, continuing his usual avocations and making a specialty of blooded stock, for which he has an extended reputation. Mr. Nace is a progressive farmer, and keeps well informed on matters pertaining to his branch of industry. All modern machinery adapted to the wants of the agriculturalist may be found in use upon his land, and new improvements of whatever character are eagerly sought and applied by him. Francis Nace was married, on the 19th of March, 1846, to Miss Levina, daughter of Samuel Leidy, of Franconia township, Montgomery Co. Their only daughter, Susanna, is married to William B. Gross, of the Trappe, Upper

the Highlands of Scotland to America at a very early date. Among his descendants was John Jarrett, the great-grandfather of Samuel F., who was born in 1719, and married Alice Conard, also born the same year. Their children were John, whose birth occurred in 1740; May, born in 1742; Elizabeth, in 1744; Hannah, in 1745; Rachel, in 1747; William, in 1748; Alice, in 1750; Jonathan, in 1753; David, in 1755; Jesse, in 1757; Tacy, in 1759; and Joseph, in 1761. Jesse married Elizabeth Palmer, whose children were Mary (Mrs. Isaac Shoemaker), David, Alice, Tacy (Mrs. James Kirk), Joseph and John.

David, of this number, was born October 24,

1797, in Whitmarsh township, and subsequently made Upper Providence township his home, where he engaged in farming pursuits until 1836, when his removal to Plymouth occurred. He married Rebecca, daughter of Atkinson Farra, of Norristown, whose children were Jesse, Samuel F., Charles P., Atkinson F., Elizabeth, John, Lucretia (Mrs. Joseph Umstead) and Chalkley. Samuel F. was born in Upper Providence township on the 19th of November, 1825, and at the age of ten years removed to Plymouth, where his youth was devoted to the ac-

his attention largely to farming, making dairying a specialty, in which branch of agricultural industry he is much interested, and has been chosen president of the Crawford Creamery, of Lower Providence. Mr. Jarrett is in his political convictions a staunch Republican. He was, elected in 1872, county treasurer in a strong Democratic locality. His popularity led to his renomination in 1873 by acclamation and consequent election. In 1874, he was again chosen for the third term of three years, and closed his official career in 1878. He was among the first to enlist, in 1863, in



Sam. F. Jarrett

quirement of a rudimentary education. Returning again to Upper Providence, he remained until 1845, when Norriton township became his residence and his occupation that of a farmer. Mr. Jarrett was, on the 3d of June, 1849, married to Amanda Crawford, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Crawford, of Lower Providence. Their children are two daughters,—Emma (deceased) and Anna R., wife of Dr. W. H. Reed, of Jeffersonville. Mr. Jarrett on his marriage removed to a farm in Lower Providence owned by him, and three years later, in 1853, purchased his present home in Norriton township. He has given

response to the call for men for the "emergency," and became a member of the Norris Cavalry, which did valuable service in Maryland, remaining in the field for a period of two months. Mr. Jarrett was educated in the faith of the Society of Friends, but at present worships at the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church.

JOHN HOFFMAN.

Squire Hoffman's grandfather was Jacob Hoffman, who resided in Norriton township, where he culti-

vated a farm. He was united in marriage to a Miss Slough, whose children were John, Jacob, Samuel, Peter, Joseph, Jesse and three daughters. Jacob was born in Norriton township on the 17th day of September, 1793, and varied the pursuits of a farmer with the trade of a carpenter. He married Barbara Heebner, daughter of John and Elizabeth Hoffman Heebner, of Norriton township, their only child being John Hoffman, whose life is here briefly sketched. He was born December 25, 1813, in Norriton, and educated at the schools immediately near his home. For several years after he engaged in teaching, in

residence. He has also, for fifty years, been engaged in the practice of surveying and conveyancing. He is in politics a Democrat, and interested in all that pertains to the welfare of the county. Squire Hoffman was for eight years assessor, for three years county commissioner, and, in 1848, was elected justice of the peace, which office he still holds. His services are frequently sought as guardian and trustee, and his opinion in matters of public import received with deference in the township. He has recently been admitted to membership in the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church.



John Hoffman

which he was successful. He married Rosanna, daughter of David and Mary Gouldéy, of the same township, and has children—Franklin, Joanna, James and two who are deceased. Squire Hoffman, after his marriage, cultivated the homestead farm, which he eventually inherited. Here his tranquil life has been spent, no excitements or attractions of the world about him having been sufficient to lure him from this peaceful home.

For many years he participated actively in the labor of the farm, but has more recently given it to other hands, though retaining the homestead as his

CHAPTER LXVII.

PERKIOMEN TOWNSHIP.¹

ONE of the central townships of the county, and bounded north by Upper and Lower Salford, east by Towamencin, south by Lower Providence, southeast by Worcester, west by Upper Providence and northwest by Frederick and Limerick. Its greatest length is six miles, greatest breadth three and a quarter miles, with an area of eleven thousand four hundred

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

and forty acres, it being the seventh in territorial extent. The general surface is rolling, and in some portions might be denominated hilly, with a red shale soil, well cultivated and productive in wheat and grass, but containing few springs of unfailing water; consequently the spring-house, so common in some of the lower districts, is not often seen. The Perkiomen Creek flows in a southerly course through the township upwards of four miles, and propels two grist-mills and a saw-mill. Skippack Creek crosses the full breadth of the southeastern section, and furnishes power to two grist-mills and a saw-mill. The Northeast Branch, Landis and Lodle Runs empty into the Perkiomen in this township.

The name Perkiomen is of Indian origin, and the earliest mention yet found of it is in a deed of June 3, 1684, for the purchase of lands on this stream, wherein it is called Pahkehoma. The next mention is on the Holme's map of about 1704 as Perquamink; in 1734, Parkiomen; and on Lewis Evans' map of 1749, Perkiomy, by which latter name it is called to this day by the Germans. Oldmixon, in the second edition of his "British Empire in America," published in 1741, says that the Perkiomen Creek is also called Perkasio, thus proving that the latter is a derivation or corruption of the former. So the township and Thomas Penn's manor, in Bucks County, owe their names to this large and interesting stream. The Rev. David Zeisberger, the Indian missionary, says that in the Delaware or Lenape language the name signifies the place "where the cranberries grow." Skippack is also an Indian name, and, according to Heckewelder signifies a stagnant stream or pool of water. In a map published at London in 1698 the Perkiomen and its several branches are represented thereon with tolerable correctness, thus showing that this section of country was explored earlier than has generally been supposed. It is much the largest stream in the county, being nearly thirty miles in length and, with its tributaries, watering half its area.

The Perkiomen and Sumneytown turnpike, completed in 1849, follows the west side of the stream through the township for four miles. Parallel and close to the same for this distance is also the Perkiomen Railroad, with stations at Iron Bridge, Grater's Ford and Schwenksville, the latter place being thirty-six miles by railroad from Philadelphia. The villages are Skippack, Schwenksville, Grater's Ford, Iron Bridge, Amityville and Harmony Square, the first four having post-offices. According to the census of 1800, the population of the township was 781; in 1840, 1485; and in 1880, 2515. The real estate for taxable purposes was valued in 1882 at \$1,716,195, and including the personal, \$1,890,300, making the average per taxable \$2851, as high as the townships of Norriton, Plymouth, Whitmarsh and Upper Providence. In May, 1883, twenty-three stores received licenses, including one hardware, one furniture, one confectioner, one clothing, two boot and shoes

two stove, two tobacco and segar, besides six hotels, one lumber and two coal-yards and four dealers in flour and feed. In 1858 the township contained only three stores, and in 1876, seventeen. The public schools are twelve in number, open six months and averaging four hundred and ninety-one pupils for the school year ending June 1, 1882. In 1856 the schools were open five months. The houses of worship now number eight,—two Mennonite, two Dunkard, one each Lutheran and Reformed, one Evangelical, one Union and one Trinity Christian. The assessment for 1883 mentions 669 taxables. The census of 1850 returned 263 houses, 298 families and 189 farms in the township.

There is every reason to believe that at this distance from Philadelphia no township within the limits of the present county was settled so early. This was owing to the remarkable enterprise exhibited by Matthias Van Bebber, formerly a merchant, who arrived in this country and settled for a brief period at Germantown, but afterwards removed to Cecil County, Md. A patent was granted him from William Penn, dated February 22, 1702, for a tract of six thousand one hundred and sixty-six acres, recorded in book A, vol. ii. p. 463, and which comprised the entire southeastern half of the township. He soon after invited settlement here by selling it off at small profit in reasonably-sized lots. His purchasers were generally Mennonites. Among the first who settled here may be mentioned John Umstat, Claus Janson, John Kuster and John Jacobs, who, it is supposed, came before the close of 1704; Edward Beer, Gerhard Indehoffen, Herman Indehoffen, Derick Rosenberg, William Rosenberg, John Newberry and Thomas Wiseman before 1707; and within two years, Herman Kuster, Henry Pannebecker, Cornelius Dewees, William Dewees, John Scholl, Daniel Dismant and Christopher Zimmerman. In 1709 came John, Jacob and Martin Kolb, followed by Solomon Dubois in 1716, Valentine Hunsicker in 1720, Paul Fried in 1727 and Valentine Keely in 1728. John Kolb's purchase was made December 15, 1709, and contained one hundred and fifty acres. Peter Beller made a purchase in 1712, and Peter Cleaver, of Bristol township, in 1717. In a petition for a road from here to Farmer's Mill, in 1713, we find among the names Derick Rosenberg, Henry Frey, Gerhard Indehoffen, Claus Janson, Gerhard Clements, Henry Pennypacker, John Umstat, John Kolb, Jacob Gotschalk, Mathias Tyson, Jacob Kolb, William Rosenberg, Herman Kuster, Martin Kolb, John Scholl, Henry Kolb, Jacob Opdegraff, Peter Sellen, Herman Indehoffen, John Newberry and Daniel Dismant, probably all residents in the township before said date.

In the list of 1734 this township is called "Parkiomen and Skippake," and by which it is generally called to this day, from its location on both sides of those streams. The land-holders were forty-two in number, who then respectively held the following number of acres: John Umstead, 150; Herman Um-

stead, 100; Henry Pennebaker, 150; Henry Umstead, 100; Peter Bunn, 100; Herman Kuster, 150; Claus Johnson, 150; Mathias Tyson, 200; Anthony Hallman, 100; John Newberry, 500; Hupert Cassel, 60; Yillus Cassel, 90; George Merkle, 150; Garret Indehoffen, 200; Abraham Swartz, 100; Jacob Updegraff, 100; Jacob Shimer, 100; Paul Fried, 100; Peter Janson, 150; Michael Ziegler, 100; Jacob Kolb, 150; Peter Kolb, 100; Martin Kolb, 200; John Fried, 100; Henry Dentlinger, 100; Jacob Merkle, 200; Benjamin Fry, 100; Henry Pawling, Jr., 1200; Paul Fried, Jr., 100; Hans Detwiler, 100; Mathias Janson, 50; Dubois estate, 400; Richard Jacobs, 400; Nicholas Hicks, 100; Valentine Hunsicker, 100; William Wierman, 125; Johannes Vanfussen, 50; Leonard Vanfussen, 25; Peter Pennebaker, 100; Arnold Vanfussen, 50; Hans Hyzer, 100; John Zibbers, 150.

Henry Pennypacker is stated to have made a purchase on Skippack Creek, December 25, 1702, upon which he settled, and in 1708 purchased two hundred and four acres more in the vicinity. About 1705 he married Eve, the sister of his neighbor, John Umstead, and the daughter of John Peter Umstead, of Germantown. He was naturalized in 1731, and prior to 1746 resided for a while in Limerick, where his wife died. He shortly afterward returned to this township, when he divided the greater portion of his estate among his children. He died April 4, 1754, aged upwards of eighty years. He had eight children, among whom were Martha, born about 1706; Adolph, 1708, and died in May, 1789; Peter, 1710, died 1770; John, 1713, died 1784; Jacob, 1715, died 1752; Henry, 1717, died 1792. Peter married Elizabeth Keyser, and Martha became the wife of Anthony Vanderslice. The Pennypackers have now become a numerous family in Montgomery and Chester Counties, and, as will be observed in the lists of Perkiomen for 1734, 1756 and 1776, became substantial land-holders.

Herman Kuster settled as a farmer at Germantown before 1703, and removed to this township probably in 1708. He was made one of the first trustees of the Mennonite meeting-house in 1725. He was naturalized in 1731 and died about February, 1760. His wife, Isabella, and children—Peter, Paul, Gertrude, Margaret, Magdalena and Rebecca—survived him. Mathias Tyson was naturalized in 1709, and was married to Barbara Sellen; and died about July, 1766. He had eight children,—Cornelius, Henry, Margaret, Peter, William, John, Benjamin and Joseph. John Newberry, who settled here on a purchase of five hundred acres, in 1706, died August 30, 1759, aged eighty-two years, and was buried at the Episcopal Church at Evansburg. Conrad Janson, Peter Janson and Claus Janson, and his sons, John and William, were naturalized in 1709. Peter, John and William Janson had settled at Germantown prior to 1700. Claus Janson probably settled here in 1703, was tax collector of the township in 1718, and in 1725 was one

of the first trustees of the Mennonite Meeting. Descendants of the family still reside in the township, and the name has become changed to Johnson. Martin, Jacob and John Kolb came from Wolfshheim in the Palatinate, in 1807. Valentine Hunsicker, Michael Zeigler, Anthony Hallman and George Markle were naturalized in 1731. Valentine Hunsicker came from Switzerland in 1717, and about 1720 settled in this township as a farmer and weaver. He is probably the ancestor of this family, now numerous in the county. In 1776 we find here Henry and Isaac Hunsicker, both extensive land-holders and probably sons of Valentine. Solomon Dubois came from Ulster County, N. Y., in 1716, and died some time before 1734, leaving an estate here of four hundred acres. The Markleys are another influential family in the county that originated from George and Jacob Merkle, or Merckley, who settled here sometime prior to 1734. In 1756 there resided as taxables in Perkiomen, Jacob, George, Isaac, Philip and Abraham Markley. The Kolbs, Jansons, Sellens, Zeiglers and Kusters were early and prominent members of the old Mennonite Meeting, founded in 1725.

In the records of the Court of Quarter Sessions, in Philadelphia, in 1712, we find it variously called Perkiomen, Skippack and Beber's township. In the petition of June 2, 1713, mention is made of its being from "the inhabitants of Skippack and several adjacent plantations in said county. That in the aforesaid township and neighborhood thereof many families are already settled, and probably not a few more to settle in and about the same. And as yet no road being laid out and established to accommodate your petitioners, both for the public good and their convenience, humbly desire an order for the laying out and establishing a road or cartway from the upper end of the said township down to the wide marsh, or Farmer's Mill, which will greatly tend to the satisfaction of your petitioners, who shall thankfully acknowledge the favor." Although in this petition it is also called a township, no evidence exists that it had been thus legally organized. From the sparseness of its population the time had probably not arrived for township organization. It was not until September Sessions, 1725, that "Skippack and Perkioming" was erected, and Jacob Taylor ordered to make a return of the boundaries of the township, which was entered on record and thus given,—

"Beginning at a Hickory, being on a corner of the tract of land commonly called Beber's township; thence northwest 1672 perches to Limerick township; thence by that and other lands northeast 1000 perches; thence southeast by divers tracts of land 752 perches to a post in a line of the said Beber's Tract; thence by the same northeast 40 perches; thence by the same 1000 perches to a White Oak, a corner of said Beber's Tract; thence by the same southwest 1040 perches to the place of beginning."

Mr. Taylor states that he has compared said return with a draft of the upper part of Philadelphia County, and that it is agreeable to the same. It would be interesting if the draft here mentioned could be found

and examined, which has certainly heretofore escaped antiquarian research. According to present maps of Perkiomen, a part of the northwest boundary, adjacent to Frederick and Upper Salford has become changed, the line proceeding northwest from the corner of Limerick and Upper Providence, in a direct or straight course, the whole distance according to Taylor's survey. This would deprive the township of nearly the whole of Schwenksville. The change may have possibly been made through the erection of Frederick township in 1730.

Henry Pawling, the ancestor of the family, came from Padsbury, Buckinghamshire, and settled in Lower Providence township on a tract of five hundred acres, which lay on the Schuylkill, below the mouth of the Perkiomen. Henry Pawling, Jr., son of the above, purchased twelve hundred acres in Perkiomen township some time before 1734, on which he settled. He was elected a captain of a company of Associators in 1747 and a member of the Assembly in 1754. In the census of Perkiomen, taken in 1756, we find the names of Joseph Pawling, having 4 children, owning 400 acres of land and 1 negro; John Pawling, 5 children, 400 acres and 2 negroes. In the assessment of 1776, John Pawling is returned for 475 acres, 4 negroes, 4 horses and 4 cows; Joseph Pawling, 300 acres, 2 negroes, 4 horses and 6 cows; Benjamin Pawling, 100 acres, 2 horses and 2 cows. The latter died in 1800, aged forty-nine years. John Pawling resided on the Skippack road, near the present Amityville, and died in the beginning of this century. There is a family burying-ground situated in quite a retired place adjoining the farm of Enos Schwenk, about a mile and a quarter northeast of Grater's Ford, only a few stones of which contain inscriptions. A portion of the same was also used as a place of interment for their negroes. On the consecration of the Trappe Church October 6, 1745, the Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg baptized three negroes belonging to a Mr. Pawling which it is probable, belonged here, as the distance does not exceed four miles, about half as far as Pawling's Ford, on the Schuylkill.

On the northeast side of Skippack road, and about half a mile northwest of Amityville, is a private graveyard, inclosed by a stone wall; its dimensions are twenty-two by thirty feet. It appears to be filled with graves, but only a few stones bear inscriptions. The earliest date observed is that of 1776, but no doubt it existed much earlier. This was the burying-ground of the Kemper family and their relatives, the Markleys. The wall has now become greatly dilapidated, and long neglect is apparent. John Kemper, who is mentioned as holding one hundred acres in Salford, in 1734, was a deacon in the Dunkard Church. John and Jacob Kemper are mentioned in 1756 as residing in Perkiomen, the former owning eighty and the latter fifty acres and having one child. The name of the former is mentioned in the assessment of 1776 as holding eighty-five acres, two horses and three cows.

The child mentioned was probably Gertrude Kemper, who died at a very advanced age about 1830, and who was said to have been the last of the family. Through the existence of this graveyard attention was directed to this brief mention of the Kempers.

The earliest highway opened up into this section was undoubtedly what has been so long known as the Skippack road, on which Washington and his army had occasion to march several times upon very important occasions. This road was petitioned for by the inhabitants June 2, 1713, surveyed in August, confirmed the following March by the court, and the supervisors directed to have it speedily opened. It commenced at a stake on the upper line of Van Bebber's purchase, about half a mile above the present Amityville, and meeting the road from Gwynedd at Edward Farmar's mill on, the Wissahickon, at Whitemarsh, from whence there was a continuous road through Chestnut Hill and Germantown to the city. This road was extended and in use through New Hanover into the present Berks County before 1742, and has, therefore, since been known as the Swamp road. The road from Skippack, through Lederachsville and Salfordville, to Sumneytown was opened in June, 1728. Along the northeastern side of the Skippack road in this township may still be seen the ancient milestones, with the distances thereon to the city. In 1845 a company was incorporated by an act of Assembly to construct a turnpike from Whitemarsh to Skippack, but, after several fruitless efforts, the project was abandoned. In March, 1853, a second charter was granted and the turnpike completed to near the Worcester line, which was finished in September, 1855, approaching the township within a distance of four and a half miles.

What was known as Pennypacker's Mill during the Revolution, in the vicinity of which Washington's army encamped, is now owned by John Z. Hunsberger, and situated on the east bank of the Perkiomen Creek, opposite the lower end of Schwenksville. In 1717 six hundred acres were conveyed to Hans Yost Heijt, who sold it, January 9, 1730, to John Pawling for five hundred and forty pounds, at which time the grist-mill is mentioned. His heirs sold it in 1747 to Peter Pennypacker, who built to it a fulling-mill in 1755. He was for several years assessor of the township, and died in 1770, devising the property to his son Samuel, in whose possession it remained for some time. The latter was rated as holding here, in 1776, one hundred and eighty-five acres, three horses and seven cows. This was a noted business-stand, being situated on a main road leading from the upper country to Philadelphia, from which it was distant twenty-nine miles. It has passed out of the Pennypacker family for some time, as has also much the greater portion of their other real estate in Perkiomen.

The Revolutionary history of this vicinity is very interesting, and to it a brief reference will be made. The battle of Brandywine was fought Septem-

ber 11, 1777, and resulted disastrously to the Americans. On the 23d, Washington arrived near the present Pottstown, while the day before the British crossed below Valley Forge to this side of the Schuylkill, proceeding leisurely on their march to Philadelphia. The American army came from near Pottsgrove into this township on the afternoon of September 26th, and encamped on the hills of both sides of the Perkiomen. Washington made his headquarters at the house of Henry Keely, about three-quarters of a mile southwest of Pennypacker's Mill, using, however, "Camp Perkioming," as well as the latter name, in his orders to designate the vicinity. On the 28th he congratulates the army on the news of the defeat of General Burgoyne at Stillwater, on the 19th, and, in honor of the event, at four o'clock in the afternoon had all the troops paraded and a salute fired from thirteen pieces of artillery, which the Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg, in his journal, says he heard distinctly at the Trappe. The next day, in a letter from here to Congress, Washington thus expresses himself in sanguine spirits—

"I shall move the army four or five miles lower down to-day, from whence we may reconnoitre and fix upon a proper situation, at such a distance from the enemy as will enable us to make an attack, should we see a proper opening, or stand upon the defensive till we obtain further reinforcements. This was the opinion of a majority of a council of the general officers, which I called yesterday. I congratulate you upon the success of our arms to the northward, and if some accident does not put them out of their present train, I think we may count upon the total ruin of Burgoyne."

The army at this time was in a wretched condition, particularly as respects clothing, and over one thousand men were actually barefooted, and performed their marches in this condition. After receiving reinforcements, on the morning of October 4th, Washington made an attack on the British at Germantown, and the result was disastrous. On the next day he again brought the entire army, according to the journal of Adjutant-General Timothy Pickering, on the west side of the Perkiomen, crossing at Pennypacker's Mill, and here they remained encamped till the 8th. Thomas Paine, who was in the retreat, also states, in his letter to Dr. Franklin, dated May 16, 1778, that the orders were given at Germantown that all connected with the army should "assemble that night on the back of Perkiomen Creek, about seven miles above camp, which had orders to move. The army had marched the preceding night fourteen miles, and having full twenty to march back, were exceedingly fatigued." The object being then to rest, refresh and recruit the men after the severe and exhausting campaign of the past four weeks. It will thus be seen that the first encampment here lasted from September 26th to the 29th, and the second from October 5th to the 8th, making in all six days, a shorter time than has been generally allowed. It is a popular tradition in the vicinity that the property of suspected persons only was taken by the soldiers.

Valentine Keely, the founder of the family, arrived

from Germany August 24, 1728, and was accompanied in the voyage by John Baer, one of the early settlers of Upper Salford. On his death his son, Henry Keely, became the owner of the property, containing one hundred and fifty acres. The house thereon, used by Washington for his headquarters, had been built some time previously by his father. It was a substantial two-story stone house, torn down in 1834. The site is still discernible, and is surrounded by venerable pear and walnut trees. It is on an elevated situation and presents a fine view of many miles of the surrounding country and of the valley of the Perkiomen. The place is still in the possession of the family, the present owner being John S. Keely, whose residence is about fifty yards from the former site. Keely's church is distant about a quarter of a mile in a northeasterly direction, and derives its name from having been built on a portion of the original tract, which had been used for a burying-ground before 1760.

Not a mile in a direct line from Schwenksville, on the North East Branch is a secluded valley, bounded on the southeast side of the stream by a bluff of high and steep rocks rising directly from the stream, on which the hemlock spruce is still found growing. Near the upper part of this hill, and about eighty feet above the stream, a hole was discovered in the rock, nearly four feet square, by Solomon Grimly, Sr., and his son, about 1795, which, on examination, was found to be filled with a considerable number of deer-horns, that had evidently been placed there for security by the Indians. Solomon K. Grimly, Esq., the present owner of the land, has lately recovered one of those horns, which possesses now the unusual interest of having belonged to one of our native deer; the rest have disappeared long ago, either being sold or converted into knife handles. At this place, in 1815 and the following year, Isaac Grimly, now in his eighty-seventh year, caught eight foxes in a trap, and his father succeeded in shooting several more. They still abound here, as well as minks, raccoons and opossums. Probably the last otter captured in Montgomery County was in the stream at this place about the year 1858, by William, Henry and Jacob Ellinger, aided by two dogs. It was a large animal for its kind, and made a desperate resistance, but was finally dispatched with clubs. Isaac Grimly, who is still vigorous and possesses a good memory for one of his age, relates seeing numbers of shad in the stream here in 1806, the property being then owned by his father.

At the intersection of a cross-roads in the southern part of the township is a meeting-house belonging to the Dunkards or German Baptists. It is built of stone, thirty-three by fifty-two feet, with a kitchen basement containing a fire-place. The congregation had existed some time previously, worshiping in the commodious dwelling near by, owned by John Detweiler. The present preachers are Abraham

Cassel and Isaac Kulp. It was long a branch of the Indian Creek congregation, but since the erection of the present meeting-house they have been placed on an equality with the rest in the denomination. Although it is a little over a mile northwest of the Skippack Creek, yet their baptisms are performed there. They have also a house of worship at Grater's Ford, two miles distant.

The ancient village of Skippack, though better known as Skippackville, is situated near the northeast part of the township, within half a mile of the Lower Salford line. It contains two hotels, three stores, post-office, printing-office, school, shirt-factory, four or five mechanic shops and about fifty-four houses, standing principally along Skippack road for the distance of nearly a mile. A map in 1860 contains but twenty-nine houses, showing that the place has since improved. The road through here towards the city, was opened in 1714, at which time there must have been some settlement. In 1742, Garrett Indehaven kept the only licensed inn, there being then none above it nearer than the present Hanover Square. In 1756, Dietrich Welker kept an inn here, which may have been the same stand, Nicholas Nichum in 1779 and Gabriel Kline in 1785, the sign being a weeping willow, which was retained into the beginning of this century. The post-office was established here before 1827, of which Abraham Everhart, in 1830, was postmaster. In 1828 the mail was carried weekly through here to the city by the Kutztown stage. *Der Neutralist und Allgemeine Neuigkeits-Bote* is a weekly paper in German, started here in August, 1844, of which Mr. A. E. Dambly is editor and proprietor. The Trinity Christians have a two-story stone church in charge of the Rev. Joseph H. Hendricks, to which a graveyard is attached. The Enterprise Shirt-Factory is a large three-story brick building erected in 1881, giving considerable employment to the neighborhood. The elections for the eastern part of the township have been held in this village for many years.

Iron Bridge is the name bestowed on Rahn's Station about three years ago at the establishment of the post-office. The village is situated on the west side of the Perkiomen, about a mile below Grater's Ford, the railroad having a station here and the turnpike passing through the place. It contains a store, hotel, foundry, brick, coal and lumber-yard, two hat-factories and some thirty houses. The Union Chapel is a one-story brick edifice erected in 1851, chiefly by the Trinity Christians, and is also used by other denominations. The iron bridge here over the Perkiomen was built by the county in 1873, and is six hundred and forty-four feet in length with the abutments, resting on eight piers. Its cost was nearly forty thousand dollars. The census of 1880 gives one hundred and ninety-one inhabitants.

The village of Grater's Ford is situated on the west side of the Perkiomen, on the turnpike and railroad, two miles below Schwenksville, the latter having a

station here. It contains a store, hotel, post-office, planing-mill, several mechanic shops and about twenty-five houses. According to the census of 1880, it has one hundred and forty-eight inhabitants. The Dunkards have a small chapel or meeting-house. An iron bridge also crosses the Perkiomen here, built in 1881 by the county. In 1847 there were but one or two houses here and a saw-mill, but the construction of the turnpike and railroad since has contributed to its prosperity. On its completion H. J. Ashenfelter erected a grain, coal and lime depot and a dry-goods, grocery and feed-store that helped to give the village a start. The post-office was established in the spring of 1869, and Isaac Kulp appointed postmaster. Jacob Kreater owned here, in 1756, two hundred and twenty acres of land, from whence originated the name of the old crossing-place.

Harmony Square is near the centre of the township and in the midst of a fine, productive country. Here is a creamery, post-office, store, a merchant tailor and thirteen houses. The creamery was built about 1878, and belongs to an association of farmers in the vicinity.

Amityville is but little over half a mile above Skippack, contains a store, several mechanic shops and above a dozen of houses.

A long-established and well-conducted agricultural township like Perkiomen, as might be expected, contains a number of descendants of the early settlers. Among the land-holders mentioned in 1734 we find still here the names of Kolb, Hunsicker, Markley, Tyson, Hallman, Johnson, Kuster, Detweiler, Cassel, Ziegler, Pennypacker and Wierman.

Schwenksville.—This flourishing village is situated on the west side of the Perkiomen Creek, and in the northwest portion of the township. It contains two hotels, four stores, a bank, printing-office, bakery, clothing manufactory, railroad-station, lumber, coal and marble-yards, church, school, creamery and sixty-three houses. The census of 1880 gives three hundred and three inhabitants, of which about one-seventh reside in Frederick township. Isaac Grimly, living in the vicinity at the advanced age of eighty-seven, remembers when there was not a house in the place, which was a little prior to 1815. The greater portion of the land here was left, in 1770, by Peter Pennypacker to his son, William, who was rated in 1776 as possessing two hundred and twenty-five acres. In the census of Perkiomen, taken in 1756, mention is made of George Schwenk, blacksmith, having two children and owning one hundred acres of land, which was probably in this vicinity.

So small was this place in 1849 that on William E. Morris' county map there was then only denoted here Schwenk's inn and store, the house of J. Steiner and a blacksmith-shop. About this date the post-office was established, through the efforts of Jacob G. Schwenk, as "Schwenk's Store," and so remained until about 1872, when, through the growth of the

place, it was changed to its present name. The lower bridge over the Perkiomen was built by the county in 1832, the contractors being Samuel Pennypacker and Solomon Bustard. The next material improvement was the completion of the turnpike through here, from Collegeville to Sumneytown, in 1846. In 1868 the Perkiomen Railroad was completed from the Schuylkill to Skippack Station, as it was then called, about three-fourths of a mile below the present Schwenksville depot; the following year to Mine Run, at the upper end of the village, and not until September, 1874, to the Lehigh Valley. Of all the several improvements, this, of course, promoted its greatest prosperity. The railroad depot was built here in 1869, being ninety-six feet long by twenty-four wide, containing a ticket and telegraph-office, waiting-rooms and storage for freight.

The first school-house was built in 1849, but proving too small, a larger one, of stone, was built in 1869, on the hill beside the road to Keely's church. The meeting-house here belongs to the Evangelical denomination, is a one-story building, erected in 1861, and is now in charge of Rev. J. G. Sands. There is a graveyard attached, in which as yet but few have been buried. The National Bank was established in 1875, and moved into their new building in the fall of 1878, Jacob G. Schwenk being president and John G. Prizer cashier. The *Weekly Item* which commenced publication here September 7, 1877, by N. B. Grubb, has since been enlarged, and is now conducted by Irwin H. Bardman. Albert Bromer, an enterprising citizen of the place, and extensively engaged in the manufacture of clothing, erected here, in 1874, Industrial Hall, the first story of which he occupies in his business; the second contains a commodious hall for entertainments and public worship. The third is used by the Improved Order of Red Men and Brotherhood of the Union. The Pennypacker reunion was held here October 4, 1877, and brought together a considerable number of the family from widely-scattered portions of the country.

By the banks of the Perkiomen are several large ice-houses for the storage of ice, taken from the stream. One of these was erected by Mr. Bromer in 1874, and is one hundred feet long by forty-five feet wide, to which was added, in 1876, an inclined plane and a steam-engine for elevating the ice, and which can also be used for loading it into the cars. A creamery was built here in 1881, and is conducted by an association of dairymen residing in the surrounding section. It will be observed from this brief mention that there is considerable enterprise here, and that it bids fair ere long to increase the number of boroughs within the county. To a stranger from the city this section presents attractions, particularly to lovers of the natural sciences and diversified scenery.

The Old Mennonite Meeting-House.—Mathias Van Bebber, who did so much among his countrymen to promote settlement here, conveyed, by deed of trust,

June 8, 1717, one hundred acres of land to Henry Sellen, Claus Janson, Henry Kolb, Martin Kolb, Jacob Kolb, Michael Zeigler and Herman Kuster, as trustees, for the use of a Mennonite congregation. The meeting-house built on this tract about 1725, is supposed to be the second erected by this denomination in Pennsylvania, a previous one having been built in Germantown in 1708. The old building stood in the northwest part of the graveyard. The present edifice is of stone, one story high, fifty by sixty-five feet in dimensions, and was erected in 1844. The building committee consisted of Garrett Hunsicker, Abraham Tyson and Abraham Hallman. Whether this was the second or third house of worship built has not been satisfactorily determined. The Bible used was printed by Christopher Saur at Germantown in 1743, a quarto of twelve hundred and seventy-two pages, and is in excellent preservation. Amos Bean is present bishop, Henry Johnson, Jr., minister, and Elias Greater, deacon of the congregation. Worship is held every two weeks.

The graveyard is opposite the present meeting-house, and contains about four acres of ground, and, as may be well supposed, contains a large number of interments. The inscriptions on some of the oldest stones have become illegible. The earliest observed was to the memory of Paul Engle, aged seven years, who died in 1723. The Inde Havens have also some early tombstones here. It is evident from the dates that this ground must have been used for burial purposes soon after the grant in 1717. It also appears from what exists here that the Mennonites had not interdicted the use of memorial inscriptions to their members on tombstones, like several other sects, until some time after the colonial period. The surnames transcribed here are Hilman, Boyer, Roller, Hallman, Godshalk, Linderman, Fry, Scholl, Christman, Vanfossen, Oberholtzer, Custer, Cassel, Sorver, Johnson, Kolb, Zollers, Fackler, Rosenberger, Underkoffler, Bean, Keyser, Keeler, Jones, Pannebecker, Smith, Merckley, Hendricks, Bilger, Kooker, Tyson, Reiff, Allabach, Umstead, Grater, Kratz, Swartley, Hunsicker, Wanner, Hyser, Croll, Spare, Updegrave, Fretz, Hamer, Gotwals, Horning, Seisholtz, Zeigler, Crater, Bergy, Freyer, Wonsitler, Mattis, Harley, Shoemaker, Clemens, Steiner, Heckler, Rase, Leatherach, Young, Ritter, Dise, Dotterer, Kelsch, Gehringer, Wurtz, Steigner, Ruth, Drake, Fuss, Wasser, Wierman, Bergstresser, Inde Haven and Freed.

Like all old congregations, this, too, has had its trials and burdens to bear in an existence of over a century and a half. Schisms, though not of modern origin, still exist to help weaken and to scatter denominations. First came the Funkites, as they have been termed, about 1780, who were not opposed to paying a war tax; second, the Herrites, about 1820; then the much more serious and extensive division of 1846; and several years later, again, that of the Trinity

Christians. All of these schisms have at the time led to the erection of additional houses of worship either in this or the adjoining townships. The sect holding possession of the present premises is denominated the new school of Mennonites, who do not so rigidly enforce the wearing of plain apparel, and are less disposed towards innovation.

The New Mennonite Meeting-House.—This house of worship is located near Harmony Square, and about a mile and a quarter northwest of the old meeting-house. It originated in a schism and was built about 1848-49. It is a one-story edifice, thirty-six by forty-five feet in size, John Hunsberger being bishop, John Mench minister and Henry Wismer and Christian Hunsberger deacons. Worship is held every two weeks, and the services are confined to the German. The graveyard occupies about half an acre of ground, and we find on the tombstones the names of Detweiler, Kulp, Croll, Lechtel, Godshalk, Reiff, Markley, Zeigler, Tyson, Landis, Benner, Williams, Moyer, Kriebel, Meyer, Goshow, Wismer, Hallman, Gouldy, Fitzgerald, Keer, Bean, Gander, Stauffer, Smith, Cassel, Brecht and Sparr. This belongs to the old school of Mennonites, who, on the dispute that arose respecting minor points of doctrines, rather than have litigation or retain forcible possession of the old meeting-house and grounds, voluntarily withdrew, (though it is said they numbered over half the entire congregation) to worship here in a building erected at their own charge. For so commendable an act they certainly deserve praise, for it could not be done without considerable self-sacrifice, to thus sever all connection with a place where their ancestors had worshiped and been buried for several preceding generations.

As the bishops hold considerable power in the Mennonite Church, the inquiry was instituted as to the mode of their appointment or election. Whenever a bishop is desired in a diocese or district, which may arise through death, inability or infirmity, the ministers unite in a petition to the Conference, which meets semi-annually, to whom they also apply for ministers and deacons. If granted, all the ministers within the diocese convene to hold an election, but permit no candidates. A record is kept of all the ministers who received votes for the office, which occasion must be presided over by several bishops. The latter now appoint a public meeting, which is generally held within a month, at which they are required to be present. All who had received votes are then considered candidates. The bishops on this occasion take as many hymn-books as there were candidates named, in a single one of which is placed a slip of paper having written on it legibly "Bishop," when they are all clasped and well intermixed. A prayer is now invoked that the man the Lord has designated for the office may become the bishop. The books are now all placed in a row on the pulpit before the bishops, and every candidate advances and takes

a book. A bishop now arises to receive back the books which are respectively examined, and the minister who hands in the book that contains said slip is declared the bishop, whom they ordain by laying on of hands in prayer. Their ministers and deacons are made nearly in the same manner, ordination being omitted. The bishops alone receive membership, administer communion and perform the marriage rite. Marriages are not permitted outside of the denomination.

New Jerusalem Church.—What is known as Keely's church, belonging jointly to the Lutherans and German Reformed, is situated in the extreme western part of the township, within a few yards of the Limerick line and but a short distance from Frederick township. A deed was prepared and dated February 14, 1756, for one acre of ground to be used here for a German school and burying-place. It was made by Valentine Keely and his wife, Susanna, to Heronius Haas and John Kepler, miller. Shortly after this Mr. Keely died, followed by his wife within a few years, and the deed was not executed. In November, 1761, a purchase was effected on the part of the Lutherans by George Michael Bastian, John Kepler and Valentine Krause, and for the German Reformed by Martin Keeler, Henry Keely and Valentine Sheelich as trustees. In addition, mention was made that if a house of worship was erected thereon, it was to be held equally by the two denominations.

A building, it was known, was in use here in 1763 for a school, in which worship was occasionally held. When the army came here immediately after the battle of Germantown it was used for a brief time as a hospital for the sick and wounded soldiers. After the war the building was enlarged and provided with folding doors, a portion thereof being held exclusively for worship. Isaac Grimly went to school here in 1810, and was a teacher in 1818. He also at that period attended religious worship here. It was a log structure, and in 1834 was torn down, and from a portion of the materials another school-house was erected in the neighborhood the following year.

The present church was built in 1835. It is a two-story stone edifice, with an interior gallery on three of its sides. It was consecrated in the fall of 1836; the Rev. Jacob Wampole was then the Lutheran pastor and Rev. J. A. Strassberger the Reformed. Mr. Wampole continued in the charge until his death, January 3, 1838, succeeded by the Rev. Henry S. Miller, from April, 1838, to May, 1852; Rev. G. A. Wenzel to October, 1854; Rev. A. S. Link, from December, 1856, to February, 1859; Rev. G. Sells, from March, 1859, to 1864; Rev. John Kohler to 1874; and Rev. O. P. Smith, from that date until the present time. The Reformed pastors have been Rev. Henry S. Bassler, Rev. Gulden, Rev. Andrew Hoffman, Rev. Robert Vancourt and the Rev. S. M. K. Huber.

The name given it by the denominations in charge is New Jerusalem Church. It is four miles distant from the Trappe, one mile from Schwenksville and

three miles from Keeler's church, at Roseville, Frederick township, which was built two years before for a union congregation, and with which it is often confounded from the similarity of names. The graveyard opposite the church contains about five acres of ground, and from its elevated situation affords a fine view of the surrounding country. On the tombstones we find the names of Keely, Grimly, Schwenk, Pennypacker, Willauer, Kieler, Schillich, Fox, Druckenmiller, Bromer, Anderson, Miller, Markley, Bechtel, Grater, Hunsicker, Batz, Cooke, Puhl, Hallman, Winterstein, Groff, Souder and Paul. Valentine Keely, ancestor of the family and an early settler in the vicinity, was buried here, a vigorous-growing apple tree above a foot in diameter, denoting the spot.

Census of Perkiomen, 1756.—The following census was taken of this township in June, 1756, by Walter Johnson, resident constable and collector, by order of the provincial government. Forty-one bound servants and five negroes are omitted. Of the latter John Pawling owned two, aged seventeen and twenty years; Joseph Pawling one, aged fourteen; and Abraham Sealer two, aged forty and fifty years. No occupation has been assigned to farmers. This list was copied from the original document, and has not been heretofore published.

Peter Panabacker, miller, 8 children, 500 acres, 100 cleared; Henry Baringer, 1 ch., rents of Peter Panabacker; Abraham Sealer, miller, 5 ch., 450 a., 100 cl.; Richard Jacobs, 7 ch., 500 a., 100 cl.; Michael Zeigler, Jr., tanner, 3 ch., 77 a., 40 cl.; William Zeigler, weaver, 2 ch., 120 a., 50 cl.; Jacob Kreater, weaver, 7 ch., 220 a., 80 cl.; Elizabeth Kolb, 6 ch., 100 a., 30 cl.; Dilman Kolb, 3 ch., 100 a., 40 cl.; Henry Kolb, 5 ch., 100 a., 50 cl.; Isaac Kolb, weaver, 5 ch., 220 a., 80 cl.; John Fried, 3 ch., 120 a., 50 cl.; George Clauser, mason, 1 ch., rents of Isaac Kolb; Adam Gotwals, 6 ch., 100 a., 40 cl.; Joseph Detweiler, 4 ch., 180 a., 70 cl.; John Barrens, mason, 3 ch.; Henry Detweiler, 1 ch., 100 a., 60 cl.; Abraham Opdegrave, 6 ch., 125 a., 60 cl.; Edward Opdegrave, 2 ch.; John Butterwack, tailor, 2 ch., 200 a., 100 cl.; Barbara Smith, 3 ch.; Jacob Messenheimer, carpenter, 5 ch., John Cugh, 2 ch.; Nicholas Selzer, 4 ch.; John Kyter, 5 ch., 170 a., 80 cl.; Philip Gans, shoemaker, rents of John Kyter; Adam Sower, carpenter, 2 ch.; Dietrich Welker, innkeeper, 1 ch., 170 a., 80 cl.; Henry Schlichter, shoemaker, 5 ch.; William Johnson, carpenter; Jacob Markley, 4 ch., 150 a., 50 cl.; Isaac Markley, 2 ch., rents of Jacob Markley; John Kemper, 80 a., 40 cl.; Jacob Kemper, 1 ch., 50 a., 25 cl.; Joseph Pawling, 4 ch., 400 a., 60 cl.; George Walker, carpenter, 3 ch., rents of Joseph Pawling; Michael Zeigler, weaver; Jones Rudrofe, weaver, 1 ch.; John Detweiler, weaver, 8 ch.; Bastian Haupt, 3 ch., 125 a., 60 cl.; John Wierman, 5 ch., 80 a., 40 cl.; Solomon Grimly, 150 a., 10 cl.; Philip Sheelich, 3 ch., 150 a., 80 cl.; George Schwenck, blacksmith, 2 ch., 100 a., 40 cl.; John Pawling, 5 ch., 400 a., 100 cl.; Henry Miller, 3 ch., rents of John Pawling; Philip Markley, shoemaker, 3 ch., 70 a., 30 cl.; Christian Doll, 7 ch., rents of Solomon Dubois, 1000 a., 200 cl.; Michael Bauer, 2 ch.; Arnt Rosen, locksmith, rents of Abraham Sealer; Valentine Hunsecker, weaver, 5 ch., 225 a., 100 cl.; Ludwig Horning, 7 ch., 130 a., 70 cl.; Leonard Vanfossen, tanner, 80 a., 40 cl.; John Vanfossen; Christian Moser, 7 ch., 100 a., 55 cl.; William Burk, 1 ch., 260 a., 60 cl.; Andrew Heiser, 150 a., 60 cl.; Walter Johnson, shoemaker, 4 ch., 50 a., 30 cl.; George Markley, 18 a., 6 cl.; Jacob Umstead, 7 ch., 100 a., 50 cl.; Henry Umstead, 6 ch., 200 a., 60 cl.; Margaret Panabacker, 6 ch., 180 a., 70 cl.; Abraham Markley, blacksmith, 5 ch., 100 a., 70 cl.; Henry Panabacker, miller, 3 ch., 100 a., 70 cl.; Joseph Smith, tailor, 3 ch., 125 a., 60 cl.; Henry Kassel, weaver, 2 ch., 90 a., 60 cl.; Henry Kassel, weaver, 60 a., 40 cl.; Richard Newberry, 2 ch., 250 a., 150 cl.; Henry Newberry, farmer, 1 ch., 150 a., 40 cl.; Benjamin Tyson, 100 a., 40 cl.; Peter Johnson, 125 a., 70 cl.; Mathias Tyson, 280 a., 100 cl.; Herman Custer, 150 a., 50 cl.; Paul Custer, 2 ch., rents of Herman Custer; Derick Rinker, mason, 3 ch., 50 a., 20 cl.; John Custer, fuller, 1 ch., rents of Herman Custer; Her-

man Umstead, 5 ch., 150 a., 60 cl.; Henry Hallman, 7 ch., 150 a., 70 cl.; Henry Keely, 1 ch., 120 a., 50 cl.; Peter Henckenius, schoolmaster, 1 ch.; John Bamer.

ASSESSMENT OF PERKIOMEN FOR 1760.

Henry Pennebacker, assessor, and John Detweiler, collector.

William Bull, sadler, 50 acres, 2 horses and 3 cows; Samuel Buckman, 2 h., 2 c.; George Buch, 2 c.; Mathew Blockley, 1 c.; John Benner, 1 c.; Isaac Cassel, weaver, 100 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Henry Cassel, 60 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Crater, 120 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Clemens; Patrick Campbell; John Dull, 1 c.; John Detweiler, weaver, 200 a., 4 h., 6 c.; Henry Detweiler, 270 a., 4 h., 9 c.; John Detweiler, Jr., 320 a., 3 h., 5 c.; John Treat, 123 a., 3 h., 4 c.; John Fronsfield, 174 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Jacob Godshalk, 22 a., 2 c.; Solomon Grimly, 150 a., 1 servant, 2 h., 5 c.; Henry Hallman, 170 a.; Henry Haas, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Andrew Heiser, 300 a., 1 servant, 3 h., 5 c.; Ludwig Horning, 160 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Henry Hunsecker, 115 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Isaac Hunsecker, 8 children, 210 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Peter Johnson, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Jacobs, 1 servant, 150 a., 2 h., 7 c.; Samuel Jacobs, 2 servants, 150 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Walter Johnson, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Kuster, joiner, 2 c.; Peter Kelter, 8 children, 170 a., 3 h., 4 c.; John Kuster, fuller, 200 a., 2 h., 7 c., and a fulling mill; William Kuster, 1 c.; Paul Kuster, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Henry Kolp, weaver, 113 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Dilman Kolp, 113 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Henry Kolp, Jr., 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Martin Kolp, 223 a., 3 h., 7 c.; John Kemper, 85 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Henry Keeler, 1 servant, 150 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Bernard Kepler, 80 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Yillus Kolp, 160 a., 2 h., 5 c.; George Lehman, 1 c.; Jacob Markley, 150 a., 2 c.; Jacob Markley, shoemaker, 75 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Abraham Markley, 100 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Henry Newberry, 226 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Israel Newberry, 215 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Nicholas Nikom, 2 h., 3 c.; Henry Pennebacker, miller, 104 a., 3 h., 7 c., and a grist and saw-mill; Henry Pennebacker, smith, 71 a., 2 h., 5 c.; William Pennebacker, 225 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Samuel Pennebacker, 185 a., 3 h., 7 c.; Joseph Pawling, 2 negroes, 300 a., 4 h., 6 c.; Benjamin Pawling, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Pawling, 4 negroes, 475 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Herman Pennebacker, 165 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Peter Reimer, 80 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Ludwig Reinbolt, 1 c.; John Smith, 8 children, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Jost Smith, tailor, 125 a., 1 c.; Jacob Smith, 2 h., 4 c.; George Snell, shoemaker, 1 h., 1 c.; Valentine Shelich, 6 children, 125 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Isaac Saler, 2 h., 4 c.; Abraham Saler, 1 servant, 2 negroes, 920 a., 4 h., 8 c.; Adam Sover, tailor, 70 a., 2 h., 3 c.; George Shut, 2 h., 2 c.; Casper Steinmetz, 1 c.; David Stripe, 27 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Joseph Tyson, Sr., has a blind son, 130 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Mathias Tyson, 110 a., 2 h., 3 c.; William Tyson, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Joseph Tyson, Jr., 50 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Lewis Truckennmiller, tailor; Jacob Umstead, 166 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Henry Umstead, 300 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Harman Umstead; Jacob Urwiler, 1 h., 1 c.; Edward Updegrave, 124 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Abraham Updegrave, 98 a., 1 h., 4 c.; John Wierman, 230 a., 6 h., 9 c.; Michael Zeigler, 160 a., 3 h., 4 c.; William Zeigler, 130 a., 2 h., 5 c.; David Allibach, 1 c.; Jacob Prutzman, 1 h., 2 c.; Casper Moyer. *Single Men*—Bernard Haines, Benjamin Johnson, William Johnson, Isaac Kolp, Henry Showitzer, Jacob Zeigler, Christian Allebach.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

PHILIP M. HUNSICKER.

The progenitor of the family in America was Valentine Hunsicker, a native of Switzerland, who came to the United States in 1717, and about three years later settled in the present Perkiomen township. His son, Henry Hunsicker, married Mary, daughter of John Detwiler, whose children were Henry C., John D., Daniel D., William D., Elizabeth, Mary, Catharine, Susanne. Henry C. Hunsicker was born in Perkiomen township, where his early life was spent. He married, in 1833, Lydia, daughter of Philip Markley, of the same township, and had children,—Philip M., Charles M., Daniel M., Henry M., Henry M. (2d), Mary M. (Mrs. Henry Yelles), Ann M. (Mrs. James

Koons), Deborah (Mrs. H. T. Johnson), Lydia (Mrs. Benjamin Saylor) and Kate M. On the occasion of his marriage Mr. Hunsicker removed to Franconia township, and carried on farming until his return, in 1850, to his native township, where he combined milling with the pursuits of a farmer until a few years prior to his death, when he retired from business. His son Philip M. was born November 18, 1836, in Franconia township, where his youth was spent, meanwhile becoming a pupil of a day-school and afterwards attending the Freeland Academy, at Collegeville. He removed, with his father, in 1850, to Perkiomen town-

1859; Henry T., in 1861; Clayton, in 1863; Norwood Penrose, in 1869 (deceased); Elmer Ellsworth, in 1873; and Addie T., in 1875 (deceased). Mrs. Hunsicker died May 4, 1881, and he again married, October 26, 1882, Mrs. Ella C. Kulp, daughter of John H. Custer, of Worcester township. Mr. Hunsicker is in politics a staunch Republican, and though much interested in local political issues, has never sought nor accepted office. He is identified with the Iron Bridge Hat Association as a director. In his religious views he is a Christian, and member of Trinity Christian Church, of Collegeville.



Philip M. Hunsicker

ship, and on the completion of his studies entered his father's mill, situated on the Perkiomen stream, opposite Rahn's Station, for the purpose of learning the trade of a miller. For a while he assisted his father, and later rented the mill, which he operated until 1875, when he embarked in the lumber, coal and feed business at Rahn's Station, continuing thus engaged until 1884, when his sons succeeded him. Mr. Hunsicker was married, on the 18th of September, 1858, to Lizzie R., daughter of John Z. Tyson, of Perkiomen township. Their children are Melvin T., born in

CHAPTER LXVIII.

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP.¹

THIS township is bounded on the north by Whitemarsh, east by Whitemarsh, south by the Schuylkill and the borough of Conshohocken, and west by the borough of Norristown and Norriton. Its greatest length is three and a half miles; its width two and a half, with an area of five thousand one hundred and fifty-

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

three acres. It formerly contained five thousand six hundred and thirty-one acres but by the erection of Conshohocken into a borough in 1850, three hundred and twenty acres were taken off; also in 1853 a long, wedge-shaped strip of one hundred and twenty-eight perches wide on the Schuylkill, containing about one hundred and fifty-eight acres, by the enlargement of the borough of Norristown, thus leaving its area as mentioned. It is next to Springfield, the smallest township in the county. In the long interval from 1686 to 1850, it had not undergone any change in territorial extent.

The surface is gently undulating, and there are no elevations deserving the name of hills. Along the Schuylkill at several places the limestone assumes a rocky appearance, but nowhere rises above fifty feet perpendicularly. In proportion to its size, we have no hesitation in saying that no township in the county surpasses it in the natural fertility of its soil. On the other hand it is not well watered, for it contains no streams that afford valuable water-power. The largest is Plymouth Creek, which rises in two small branches in the east corner of the township, and after a course of four miles empties into the Schuylkill at Conshohocken. Saw-Mill Run rises in Whitpain, and after a course of over a mile through Plymouth, turns into Norriton. A small stream empties into the Schuylkill a short distance below Mogeetown.

About two-thirds of Plymouth is underlaid with limestone, which, at some places, is on or near the surface, and again at other places lies at some depth. Nearly its whole front on the Schuylkill is a bluff of limestone, and few places are more favored for burning it, both from the convenience of the material and the advantages of sending it to market either by railroad or navigation. The census of 1840 gave the value of lime manufactured in Plymouth at forty-five thousand two hundred and eighteen dollars. In 1858 seventy-five kilns were personally visited that on an average would produce fifteen hundred bushels of the article, and thus this number, at one burning, could yield considerably over one hundred thousand bushels. The number of kilns has since been increased and the extent of the business enlarged. Hence we may well judge the extent of this production, giving investment to capital and employment to a number of hands. Iron-ore which seventy years ago was almost unknown, is obtained now in abundance. In that part of the township which lies between the Plymouth Railroad and the Whitemarsh line there appears to be one vast bed of ore from the borough of Conshohocken.

The Ridge turnpike traverses the township two and a half miles, and the Germantown and Perkiomen pike about three miles. The turnpike leading from Conshohocken to the Broad Axe forms the entire southeast boundary of Plymouth, a distance of three and one-fourth miles, and separates it from Whitemarsh. The Norristown Railroad passes along the outthwest side by the Schuylkill over two miles,

and on it are Potts' Landing and Mogeetown Stations. The Plymouth Railroad has a course of over three and a half miles, and extends from Conshohocken to Oreland, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad. This company was incorporated in 1836, and the road completed shortly afterwards to the Whitemarsh line; in 1870 it was extended to its junction at Oreland. The stations in the township are Ridge, Plymouth and Corson. The villages are Plymouth Meeting, Hickorytown, Mogeetown and Harmanville. According to the census of 1800, the population was 572; in 1840, 1417; and in 1880, 1916, showing a decrease of 109 since 1870. The taxable real estate in 1882 was valued at \$1,146,089, and the total amount of property at \$1,225,884, making the average per taxable \$2804. In May, 1883, licenses were granted to four hotels, five stores, and five coal-yards. The public schools are five in number, open ten months, with an average of one hundred and fifty-seven pupils. In the census of 1850, 220 houses, 234 families and 91 farms were returned for said year. The township contains about eight square miles, and, according to the census of 1880, 237 inhabitants to the square mile. In the assessment for 1883 the aggregate number of taxables is 498.

Plymouth was surveyed, laid out and settled at quite an early period,—

"By virtue of a Warrant from the Commissioners of Property dated 7th of 4th month, 1690, a tract of land in Philadelphia County was granted unto the Plymouth Purchasers, and also together with 600 acres adjoining the southeast part thereof, which was intended by the Proprietary for a town, containing in the whole 5000 acres, was surveyed and laid out 14th of 5th month, 1686, beginning at a corner beech-tree standing by the Skoolkill, being also a corner of Major Jasper Farmer's land; thence northeast by a line of trees 1342 perches to a corner-post; thence northwest by a line of trees 696 perches to a corner-post of Benjamin Chambers and Company's land; thence southwest by the same 956 perches to a corner-tree standing by the aforesaid Skoolkill; thence down the several courses thereof to the place of beginning, containing in both the aforesaid tracts, as above said 5000 acres. Returned to the Proprietary Secretary's office 20th of 4th month, 1690."¹

From the preceding interesting pieces of history, now for the first time published, the important question arises as to who were the Plymouth purchasers. One account mentions that they were James Fox, Richard Gove, Francis Rawle, John Chelson and some other Friends who came from Plymouth, in Devonshire,

¹In connection with the subject the following has been recently secured:

"I. S. By the Commissioners empowered to grant lots and land in the Province of Pennsylvania and Territories thereunto belonging. At the request of Jonas Fox, Francis Rawle, Nicholas Pearce and Richard Grove, in behalf of themselves and other Friends of Plymouth, joyn't purchasers with them of five thousand acres of land, that we would grant the said five thousand acres of land together for a township in the most convenient place for water for the encouragement of the woollen manufacture, intended to be set up by them; these we therefore, in the Proprietary's name, do will and require thee forthwith to survey, or cause to be surveyed, unto them the said number of acres in the aforesaid Connty, where not already taken up, according to the method of Townships appointed by the Governor, the seating and improving the same within six months after the date of survey, and make return hereof to the Secretary's office, at Philadelphia, the 5th of 5th month, 1686.

"JAMES CLAYPOOLE,

"ROBERT TURNER.

"TO CAPT. THO. HOLME, Surveyor-General."

England. From an early record of arrivals at Philadelphia, it is ascertained that in the ship "Desire," James Cock, commander, which arrived June 23, 1686, were Francis Rawle, Sen., Francis Rawle, Jr., and servants, Thomas Janvers, Francis Jervis, John Marshall, Samuel Rennell, Isaac Garnier and Elizabeth Saries, James Fox and Elizabeth, his wife, children George, James, Elizabeth and Sarah, servants Richard Fox, Stephen Nowell, Christopher Lobb, Richard Davis, Nathaniel Christopher, Abraham Rowe, Mary Rowe, Mary Lucas and Sarah Jeffries. These were all from Plymouth and hence the origin of the name of their settlement here and of the township.

It will be seen from the preceding list that Francis Rawle and James Fox must have been persons of some note and means to be at least the principal purchasers of the Plymouth tract and undertake its improvement accompanied, as they were, by so many servants. The survey was made only three weeks after their arrival. There is no doubt they settled here immediately after purchase, though published accounts have heretofore made it a year earlier, which the registry of arrivals proves to be an error. After remaining here several years and making considerable improvements, they became tired of their isolated life in the woods, and removed to Philadelphia, abandoning the settlement. In 1701 a resurvey was made of the tract, which was somewhat different from the former one. It was then mentioned as "Plymouth township" and as containing five thousand three hundred and twenty-seven acres.

"Beginning at a beech-tree, marked, standing by the river Schuylkill, being near a corner dividing it from the land first laid out to Jasper Farmer; thence by an old line of marked trees northeast 1296 perches to a marked white-oak, standing in the Whitpain township; thence by an old line of marked trees northwest 643 perches; thence by marked trees dividing this from reputed lands of Benjamin Chambers; thence by an old line of marked trees southwest 840 perches thereof to the place of beginning."

It would be interesting to know on which of those surveys the existing boundaries of the township have been formed or the most closely followed. It is most probably the first, because the latter width is too narrow to conform with its present dimensions.

After the latter survey, Francis Rawle and Elizabeth Fox, the widow of James, commenced selling off tract after tract to purchasers, who became actual settlers. Among these were David Meredith, Thomas Owen, Isaac Price, Ellis Pugh, Hugh Jones, and Edmund Cartlege, all from Wales. David Meredith purchased his tract of nine hundred and eighty acres in 1701, adjoining the Whitpain line, and lying on both sides of the present Reading turnpike. He settled on his purchase we know before 1703, and consequently must have made the first improvements thereon. He died in January, 1727, aged eighty-nine years. He left a widow, Eleanor, and several children, whose surviving descendants of the name are land-holders in the township, and still retain a portion of the original tract. John Maulsby made a purchase, in 1690, in the vicinity of Cold Point. Isaac Schaffer purchased, in 1702, of Rawle

and Fox, four hundred and seventy-two acres. The latter sold off nearly half of his tract soon after to Lumly Williams. Benjamin and Joshua Dickinson, sons-in-law of the aforesaid, came in possession of part of said purchase which lay in the immediate vicinity of the Friends' Meeting-house.

In the list of 1734 the following are given as the names of residents and land-holders in Plymouth: Eleanor Meredith, widow, 500 acres; Rees Williams, 250; Benjamin Dickinson, 100; John Hamer, 200; John Davis; Joshua Dickinson, 100; John Redwitzer, 200; Peter Croll, 100; Thomas Davis, 150; Isaac Price, 328; Joseph Jones, 200; Mary Davis' estate, 400; Jonathan Rumford, 200; Henry Bell, 100; Philip John, 200; John Holton, 100. In this list of sixteen names about half are Welsh. John Redwitzer and Peter Croll came from Germany, the former having settled at Germantown before 1700. In 1709 he was naturalized, with the privilege to hold or enjoy lands. The names of Jones and Davis still exist in the township as land-holders.

Among the early settlers of Plymouth may be mentioned Ellis Pugh, a native of Dolgelle, in Wales, where he was born in 1656. In his eighteenth year he became a member of the Society of Friends, and at the age of twenty-four, came forth in the ministry. He arrived in Pennsylvania in 1687, and not long after settled in Plymouth. He died in the year 1718, at the age of sixty-two years. In the year 1707 he went on a religious visit to the inhabitants of his native country and shortly after returned. About this time he wrote a religious work in the Welsh language, with the following curious title: "A Salutation to the Britains, to call them from many things to the one thing needful, for the saving of their souls; especially to the poor unarmed Traveler, Plowmen Shepherds and those that are of low degree like myself. This is in order to direct you to know God and Christ, the only wise God, which is life eternal, and to learn of Him, that you may become wiser than their teachers." This work was translated by his friend, Rowland Ellis, and revised by David Lloyd, of Philadelphia, where it was printed by S. Keimer, in 1727. It is a small octave volume of two hundred and twenty-two pages, and, of course, rare. It is particularly interesting as an early specimen of Pennsylvania typography. Rowland Ellis the translator mentioned was an early settler in Merion, where he was for some time a justice of the peace. In 1720 he removed either into this township or near by in Whitmarsh, where he resided until 1729, in which year he died, while on a visit to his son-in-law, John Eyans, of Gwynedd.

Among the notable men of Plymouth was Zebulon Potts, who was appointed a constable of the township in 1774. During the Revolution, and while the British held possession of Philadelphia, he resided about half a mile from Conshohocken. He was an ardent Whig, and through spies the British became informed of his

opposition to their cause. They several times sent parties out to his house to capture him, and once they prosecuted their search so close as to almost find him. In 1777 he was appointed one of the justices of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas. In the assessor's list of 1780 he is represented as having one hundred acres of land, five horses, three cows and an "aged mother to maintain." In October, 1784, he was elected (the first) sheriff of the county, and continued in the office until 1787. He died in March, 1801. From his will, made the previous 27th of February, we learn that he appointed his wife, Martha, son Joseph, and son-in-law, Joseph Thomas, executors. His children were Robert T., Joseph, William, Daniel, Ann, Alice, Esther and Martha. Robert T., died at Swedesburg in 1873, in his eighty-third year. William was the last survivor of the family, and died at the residence of his son-in-law, Evan D. Jones, at Conshohocken, January 31, 1881, in his ninety-fourth year. Zebulon Potts died while a member of the State Senate, and the sheriff, John Markley, in the fall of 1801, ordered an election to supply the vacancy. In March, 1803, his personal effects and farm of eighty-two acres, including a tan-yard, was ordered to be sold for the benefit of his creditors.

Jacob Ritter, a noted minister of Plymouth Meeting, was born in Springfield township, Bucks Co., in 1757. His father and mother had come from Germany, and to pay their passage hither had bound themselves to serve respectively, three and four years. The Revolution breaking out, he joined as a soldier, and at the battle of the Brandywine was made a prisoner by a body of Hessians, and confined, with nine hundred others, in the prison at Philadelphia. Through the influence of his cousin and Joseph Gallowsay, the superintendent of police, he was discharged from confinement. In the spring of 1778 he married Dorothy Smith, and moved to the city. After a residence there of several years he lost his wife, and, in the spring of 1794, he moved with his children to Springfield. In 1802 he married Ann Williams, of Buckingham. Having sold his farm and purchased one in Plymouth, he moved on it in 1812, and continued to reside there for the remainder of his life. He was a minister among Friends for fifty years, and of Plymouth Meeting nearly twenty-nine. He died December 15, 1841, aged eighty-five years, and was interred in the Friends' burying-ground. Though he never received more than a very ordinary education, yet he wrote a journal and a memoir of his life, which was published in 1844, with a preface, additions and notes, by Joseph Foulke, of Gwynedd, in a small duodecimo of one hundred and eleven pages, from which chiefly this sketch has been prepared.

Through the petition of James Fox and other early settlers, the Provincial Council gave a permit, the 5th of Second Month, 1687, to lay out a "cart-road," from Philadelphia here, which was not long after accomplished. This is the road leading from Plymouth

Meeting to the city, and now better known as the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike, which was laid on its bed and finished in 1804, at a cost of eleven thousand two hundred and eighty-seven dollars per mile. A road was granted from Plymouth Meeting-house to Gwynedd in December, 1705, but, it appears from the records was not open until 1751. Philip Thomas petitioned, in December, 1759, that he had built a new grist-mill on Plymouth Creek, and desired a road opened from the same. This is very probably the road following the stream to the present Plymouth Station.

The "Seven Stars" inn ranks among the oldest stands in the county. In 1754, Benjamin Davis received a license to keep it, and Nicholas Scull on his map of the province, published in 1759, mentioned it by this name and which it has ever since borne. Soldiers gazed on its sign in the French and Indian war, and also, later again, the British army as they passed by it on their march to take possession of Philadelphia, and yet the sign of the "Seven Stars" has been perpetuated and still exists amidst the numerous changes of so long a period. The Davis family were early settlers in this immediate vicinity, of whom Samuel Davis was a captain in the American army during the Revolution. William Lawrence kept an inn in Plymouth in 1767; John Hamilton, in 1773; Mathew Henderson, in 1774; James Hamilton, Hannah Koller and Daniel Neill, in 1778; Samuel Caughlin, Elizabeth Bartleson and Daniel Deal, in 1785. Some of these must have kept the present "Black Horse," for this is also an old stand.

Of early township officers, we find Rees Mana a constable and David Morris supervisor in 1767; Frederick Dull and Joseph Levering, supervisors in 1785; and John Shoemaker and Henry Clare, supervisors in 1810. In the assessment of 1780 mention is made of Martin Whiteman, possessing a grist and saw-mill and 64 acres; John Pringle's estate, a grist-mill and 130 acres; John Bayard, merchant, 50 acres and 4 slaves; Joseph Fitzwater, wheelwright, 44 acres; Jacob Peterman and Nathan Potts, smiths; Peter Arnold, John Dickinson and John Davis, shoemakers; Nathaniel Van Winkle, turner; and Samuel Cowdon, weaver. One of the aforesaid mills must have been near the mouth of Plymouth Creek, and within the present limits of Conshohocken.

The village of Plymouth Meeting is situated at the intersection of the Perkiomen and Plymouth turnpikes, on the township line. On this side are the Friends and Orthodox Meeting-houses, a school-house, some eight or ten dwellings and a station of the railroad, much the larger portion of the place being situated in Whitemarsh. It was here that the original settlement of Plymouth was made, and where William Penn, according to the survey of 1686, had previously ordered six hundred acres to be laid out for a town. It was thus that the first house of worship throughout all this section came to be located

here. In the map accompanying Gabriel Thomas' "Account of Pennsylvania," published in London in 1698, the settlement here is denoted, being the only one so mentioned within the present limits of the county. Lewis Evans also noted it on his map of 1749. The post-office was located here before 1827. Considerable lime is burned in this vicinity and sent off by railroad. It was from the kilns here that the county commissioners requested proposals, in the spring of 1804, for hauling a quantity of lime by the bushel to complete the bridge then building over the Manatawny, at Pottstown, twenty-three miles distant.

Hickorytown is situated on the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike, three miles southeast of Norristown and fourteen from Philadelphia. It contains an inn, store, school-house, a blacksmith and wheelwright-shop and about thirty houses. The post-office was established here in May, 1857. The elections of the township are held here. In 1832 Gordon's "Gazetteer" mentions it as containing ten houses. Captain Robert Kennedy, an officer of the Revolution, kept the inn here in 1801; Frederick Dull, in 1806; and Jacob Hart, in 1825. In the beginning of the century this was a noted training-place for the Thirty-sixth Regiment of Pennsylvania militia and the Second Battalion of Montgomery County. The Friendship Company, for protection against horse-stealing, was organized here in the fall of 1807, and in the following year numbered sixty-four members. Near by is the Plymouth Valley Creamery, belonging to an association of farmers, which went into operation in August, 1882.

Harmansville is situated on the line of Whitemarsh township, at the intersection of the Ridge and Plymouth turnpikes, one and a half miles from Conshohocken. It contains a store, several mechanic shops and about thirty houses in the two townships. It has chiefly grown since 1850. The ore and marble production in the vicinity has given an impulse to its prosperity. Where the Ridge turnpike crosses Plymouth Creek and Railroad is Ridge Station. Here are four or five houses, the Seven Stars Hotel and a coal-yard. The venerable stone bridge over which the turnpike passes was built in 1796. About a quarter of a mile below this on the turnpike a considerable quantity of clay has been dug in the past seven years, which is manufactured into fire-brick for the linings of furnaces, especially those used in the manufacture of glass.

Plymouth Meeting.—The Friends were undoubtedly the earliest settlers of Plymouth and of the contiguous portion of Whitemarsh. It appears that William Penn had conceived the plan for a town to be laid out of about one mile square where is now the site of the present meeting-house. In the summer of 1686 the township was purchased and settled by James Fox, Francis Rawle, Richard Gove, John Chelson and some other Friends, who lived here for a time and

held meetings for worship at the house of James Fox. Being tradesmen, and not accustomed to a country life, they afterwards removed to Philadelphia. Not long afterwards, however, the land was repurchased and settled. Among a number of others were David Meredith, Edmund Cartlege, Thomas Owen, Isaac Price, Ellis Pugh and Hugh Jones, all Friends. It seems they had become sufficiently numerous here to receive the consideration of William Penn, who, in a letter to Thomas Lloyd, from England dated the 14th of Fourth Month, 1691, among other things, said: "Salute me to the Welsh Friends and the Plimouth Friends—indeed to all of them."

The members, with the consent of Haverford Monthly Meeting in 1703, continued their worship at the same house that had then come in possession of Hugh Jones, and remained there for several years, after which it was held at the house of John Cartlege for some time. Through the increase of population, it was agreed to build a meeting-house for their better accommodation, which was accordingly done at the present site, which for some time previous had been used as a burying-ground. With the consent of Haverford Monthly Meeting and the Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting, the Friends of Plymouth and Gwynedd were permitted to hold the first Monthly Meeting for themselves the 22d of Twelfth Month, 1714–15. It cannot be ascertained from the records at what exact time this meeting-house was built, but there is reason to believe that it could not have been long previous to that date. John Rees was appointed, the 25th of Twelfth Month, 1723, to keep the records of the births and burials which had been commenced in 1690. A school was kept from the beginning in connection with the meeting, and was the only one in the township down to the Revolution. Pupils came to it from miles around on horseback, in consequence of which a log stable was built on the premises.

In his visit to America, the celebrated John Fothergill, an English Friend, preached on two different occasions at this place,—the first time on the 15th of Twelfth Month, 1721, and again the 27th of Tenth Month, 1736. Thomas Chalkley, in a visit here in Fourth Month, 1726, mentions David Meredith as one of the elders, who was then nearly eighty-nine years old, but who died in the following Eleventh Month. A short time before the Revolution the Yearly Meeting at Philadelphia adopted a minute that the "members do not hold negroes in bondage," and "that they shall not buy or sell any slaves." Eight incurred the censure, when a committee was appointed, in 1775, to ascertain the exact number held by the members of the meeting, which was ascertained to be sixteen negroes and one mulatto. Thomas Lancaster, Sr., was among those prevailed on, who emancipated his man, Cato, aged forty-six years, 6th of Sixth Month, 1774.

The Revolution was also a trial to its members, several being disowned for entering the army or

bearing arms, contrary to their precepts. The meeting-house was also used as a hospital for the sick or wounded from the battle of Germantown. In 1827 and the following year a division took place among the members on points of doctrine, and the result was that a portion separated and built not long afterwards a two-story stone meeting-house near by, which is known as the Orthodox congregation, who have retained for their use a portion of the ancient graveyard. The present meeting-house is an ancient stone structure, one story high, situated in the west angle of the intersection of the Germantown and Plymouth turn-pikes. Having been injured by fire, it was repaired in the summer of 1858 and a gallery placed in the east end. The graveyard has but one stone that bears an early inscription, and that is to the memory of Mathew Colly, who died March 3, 1722, aged fifty-five years. As he was not a Friend, that portion of the ground has since been incorporated with the rest, the meeting-house standing on its eastern portion.

ASSESSMENT OF PLYMOUTH, 1780.

Frederick Dull, assessor, and James Shepherd, collector.

Zebulon Potts, 100 acres, 5 horses, 3 cows, and aged mother to maintain; James Robinson, 106 a.; Henry Grubb, 3 h., 4 c.; Martin Whiteman, grist and saw-mill, 64 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Widow Leake's estate, 105 a.; John Davis, shoemaker, 2 h., 4 c.; Jacob Wager, 95 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Wigard Levering, 200 a., 4 h., 8 c., aged; Michael Wills, 225 a., 6 h., 4 c., aged; Barnabas Coulston, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c., aged; Andrew Lisinger, 2 h., 2 c.; James Stroud, 111 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Frederick Dull, 120 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Jacob Peterman, smith, 92 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Christian Steer's estate, 40 a.; Andrew De Haven, 2 h., 2 c.; John Ettridge, Sr.'s, estate, 50 a.; James Shepherd, 100 a., 4 h., 2 c.; Henry Hence, 2 h., 3 c.; John Woods, 62 a., 2 h., 3 c.; James Wood, 96 a., 2 h., 4 c., maintains an aged mother; Moses Meredith's estate, 150 a.; Charles Linensheat, 2 h., 2 c.; Moses Meredith's estate, 250 a.; John Timberman, 2 h., 1 c.; David David, 96 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Nathan Potts, smith, 36 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Michael Trump's estate, 11 a.; Jacob Brown, 1 c.; Elizabeth Meredith, 198 a., 2 h., 2 c.; William Ellis, 1 h., 1 c.; John Campbell, 148 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Sisler, 126 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Simon Armstrong, 137 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Ludwig Sharer, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Halman, 126 a., 4 c., an aged mother to maintain; William Ryan, 100 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Samuel Brooke's estate, 186 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Peter Arnold, shoemaker, 1 h., 1 c.; John Davis, 166 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Thomas Whorlon, 1 c.; William Gregory, 60 a., 1 c., 2 h.; Alexander Loyal, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c., aged; Samuel Caughlin, inn-keeper, 18 a.; 2 h., 1 c.; Sarah Wagstaff's estate, 10 a.; John Dickinson, shoemaker, 1 h., 1 c.; Rebecca Lloyd, 21 a., 1 c., aged; Phillip Lloyd, 2 h., 1 c.; John Coulston, inn-keeper, 130 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Rudolph Bartle, 2 h., 3 c.; Nathaniel Van Winkle, turner, 5 a., 2 c.; Levi Trump, 3 a.; Joseph Buttler, innkeeper, 2 h., 2 c.; Israel Dickinson's estate, 47 a.; Jesse Rex, 1 h., 2 c.; Nicholas Knight, 6 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Joseph Jones, 250 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Reese Bell, 2 c.; Thomas Davis, 130 a., 4 h., 2 c.; Mercy Davis, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Archibald McCall's estate, 75 a.; Daniel O. Neal, inn-keeper 2 h., 1 c.; Joseph Levering, 70 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Pringle's estate, 130 a., and grist-mill; John Whiteman, 5 h., 3 c.; Alexander Colley, 250 a., 4 h., 6 c.; Phillip Sidney, 1 c.; Joseph Fitzwater, wheelwright, 44 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Daniel Deal, inn-keeper, 52 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Andrew Crawford, 180 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Samuel Cowdon, weaver, 2 c.; John Bayard, merchant, 50 a., 3 h., 4 c., 4 slaves, 1 chariot, 1 chair, plate 130 cz.; Stephen Potts, 70 a.; John Yetter, 1 c.; Jonathan Tomkins, 1 h., 1 c. *Single Men.*—Patrick McConnell, Hugh McKnowles, William Samuel, George Wolf, William Tippen, Amos Pharoah, Joseph Levering, Benjamin Levering, John Colton, Michael Wills, Jacob Whiteman, John Whiteman, Jesse Wager, John Loyal, Andrew Norney, David Jones and Jonathan Colley.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

THE CORSON FAMILY.¹

The Corson family trace their descent from the Huguenots who fled from France in 1675 on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, which drove nearly all Protestants from that kingdom. The historical fact is that two French ships sailed with families for Charleston, S. C., one of them landing its exiles at the place of destination and the other being either cast away on the shores of Staten Island or making a harbor in distress and discharging its passengers there. On this vessel, as we are informed by Weiss, in the appendix to his "History of the Persecution of the French Huguenots, by Louis XIV.," came the Corsons, Kreusons, Lefferts, Larzalleries, Du Bois' and other French families, who, about 1726, pressed their way westward and settled in Northampton township, Bucks Co., Pa., where, to the present day, their descendants are quite numerous. There is documentary proof that Benjamin Corson, of Staten Island, on the 19th of May, 1726, bought two hundred and fifty acres of land half a mile below the present Addesville, Bucks Co., for three hundred and fifty pounds. This was the original home of the family in Bucks County, and remained in its hands until 1823. This Benjamin Corson was the great-grandfather of Joseph Corson, a merchant and farmer, who in 1786 came from Bucks County and located near Plymouth Meeting, Montgomery Co. The latter married Hannah, daughter of William Dickinson, whose ancestor, Walter Dickinson, of the Church of England, received a patent for four hundred and twenty acres of land on the Patapsco River, in Maryland, in 1658. From this ancestor descended William Dickinson, who became a Friend, moved to Pennsylvania and settled at Plymouth Meeting shortly after Penn founded his colony, in 1683. He was the great-grandfather of Hannah Dickinson, who married Joseph Corson, and became the mother of the children mentioned in this sketch. The mother of Joseph Corson was a Dungan, a lineal descendant of Rev. Thomas Dungan, a Baptist preacher, who came from Rhode Island and settled at Cold Spring, near Bristol, Bucks Co., in 1684. This minister was the founder of the Baptist Church in Pennsylvania. He had left England to escape the persecutions against his sect, but finding New England no better, came to Pennsylvania to share the religious liberty of the Quakers. In the graveyard of the church to which he ministered he buried the remains of Dr. Benjamin Rush, of Revolutionary fame. The zeal of the Corson family for liberty of conscience, therefore, is derived from Huguenot, Baptist and Quaker sources, certainly forming a strong pedigree in that direction.

¹ For sketches of Drs. Hiram, William and Elwood Corson, see chapter on the Medical Profession.

ALAN W. CORSON.

"Let the mind be great and glorious, and all other things are despicable in comparison."—*Seneca*.

Without doubt, the best-known and most justly celebrated scholar and scientist in Montgomery County was Alan W. Corson (son of Joseph and Hannah Corson), of Whitmarsh township. We have others whose general scholastic attainments are more classical, but in the higher mathematics—botany, geology, mineralogy, conchology, entomology and astronomy—he was distinguished in our county.

Born in Whitmarsh township, Second Month 21, 1788, he continued on the farm of his father and attended Friends' school until twelve years of age, when his father having entered the store business and needing his services he entered on his duties there, at which he continued until grown to adult age. That business in the country oftentimes affords much opportunity for study; and, with an ambition to learn, a good memory and great mental capacity, he soon made rapid progress in knowledge. The libraries were visited for volumes of history, science and general literature, and he rapidly took place among the brightest young men of the time. "He possessed such decided mathematical capacity," says Mr. Auge, "that he was able to master these studies nearly unaided by teachers. By the time he was grown, therefore, he was capable of teaching all the common mathematical branches, as well as the other studies usual in high schools. He was thus early a self-taught scholar and teacher also, a profession to which he devoted himself. For many years, in addition to carrying on a farm of about fifty acres, he taught Friends' school at Plymouth Meeting, and afterwards for many years a boarding-school in his own home, in Whitmarsh, his reputation as a teacher being so high that he drew many pupils from Norristown and other places.

"About middle life, however, he abandoned teaching as a profession, and having a large farm and a nursery of trees and shrubs, he divided his time between these and land-surveying, an art in which he was regarded as the most accomplished in the county. His reputation in that department was so eminent that he was often called to distant places and employed wherever there were difficult lines to run that required extra skill and accuracy to determine true boundaries.

"In this calling he was not relieved from service until he was nearly, if not quite, eighty years of age, when he deemed it prudent to decline further labor.

"He was also, during nearly all his adult life, because of accuracy in accounts, excellence of judgment and high character for integrity, employed by neighbors and acquaintances to write wills, deeds and agreements for them; he was frequently, also, appointed executor by testators or chosen administrator by those dying intestate.

Quite early in life Alan W. Corson was married to

Mary, daughter of Lawrence Egbert, of Plymouth, and they had born to them the following children:

I. Hannah, who married James Richie, and lives in Philadelphia.

II. Sarah, married to Isaac Garretson, of Whitmarsh.

III. Martha, wife of Isaac Styer, of Plymouth.

IV. Elias H. Corson, whose life and family history appear elsewhere in this volume.

V. Lawrence E., who married Mary, daughter of Dr. Benjamin Johnson, of Norristown.

VI. Joseph, who studied medicine with his uncle, Dr. Hiram, graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, and till the breaking out of the Rebellion practiced at Portsmouth, Ohio; was surgeon of an Ohio regiment during the war, and died soon after his return. He was married to Martha Cutler, of that place, and his widow and two sons still reside there.

VII. Luke is a farmer in Nebraska; has two sons.

Alan W. Corson's eldest daughter, Mrs. Richie, inherited her father's love of natural science, and more than thirty years ago furnished to the Montgomery County Cabinet of Natural Science, which her father had been mainly instrumental in forming, a valuable herbarium. She stands high as a botanist, and the vast collection of rare specimens which she has gathered and cultivated, as also her museum of salt and fresh-water shells, have made her justly celebrated among her acquaintances. She has two daughters living in Philadelphia,—one the wife of Dr. John Graham, the other married to Mr. George Perkins.

No man could be more careful than Alan Corson to so deport himself as to give no offense, so sensitive and unobtrusive as to refuse to be put forward in places above his friends, or more ready to discover the appearance of neglect and quick to refuse to receive a favor bestowed with a shade of reluctance.

He became a member of the Society of Friends at a very early age, and attended the meetings very regularly. Once, after an attendance at Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, he was returning on foot (at that time there was not even a stage), when, as he reached the hill at "Robin Hood" (now Laurel Hill), he saw a neighbor coming behind him in a two-horse carriage, with some of his family in it, but yet a vacant seat. He felt that now he could have a ride home. As they neared he turned and spoke to them, and instinctively held up his hand just as they seemed to be passing. They stopped and took him in. He had scarcely been seated before the conviction seized him that but for the gesture he made they would have passed without inviting him in. At once he said he desired to get out. They endeavored to detain him, but he sprang out and afterwards walked home with a very light step. This little incident was most characteristic of the man. Mr. Auge, in his biography, already alluded to, thus sums up his history,—

"A notice of Alan W. Corson would not be complete without further reference to his brothers and sisters,



Alan W. Foxson

the other children of Joseph Corson, who left a large family, nearly all of whom were well educated and possessed commanding talents and marked moral characteristics. The author will be pardoned for saying that they exhibit marked peculiarities, reminding him of some of the time-honored clans of Scotland. The Corsons will arraign each other, sometimes, sharply, but to the outside world they are a unit. This results from the very commendable and warranted pride of family, or *esprit de corps*, as the French phrase it. Almost all the race possess a keen, jocular turn of mind, and some of them a talent for mimicry and critical badinage peculiarly French. The author may also add that he has no knowledge of any man of the county from whom are descended so large a number of cultivated and distinguished offspring, both in the male and female branches, as are descended from Joseph Corson.

"With few exceptions, the whole Corson race have been cultivated in mind and are notorious for their love of free thought. True to their Huguenot origin, they have been outspoken for freedom,—the deadly foes of slavery, and most of them life-long teetotalers. As the phrenologists say, the moral instincts have predominated over those strictly religious, Alan W. being the only one of the male members of the family who assumed the strict garb and life of Friends, although most of them adhere to the society's teachings. Alan W. is justly noted for his doctrinal unity with those who hold the views of Elias Hicks, and for the conscientious fulfillment of every precept of Christian morals.

"Alan W. Corson's mind received a strong religious bent at a very early age, and his conscientiousness and truthfulness have been controlling characteristics during his long life. Many years ago, with his cousin, John Evans,¹ he used to make annual excursions to

¹ An incident in the life of Alan W. Corson and John Evans may be mentioned here which, though commonplace, doubtless exerted a great influence on their after-movements. Alan, on returning from a visit to his daughter (present Mrs. Richie), at Westtown School, felt that he ought to call on his cousin, John Evans, whose house was but little out of the direct road home. The Corson and Evans families, though so closely related, had lived in different counties, and these two cousins had but slight acquaintance with each other. John was a miller and farmer, living in a most romantic place among the hills of Radnor, and kept hounds, and among his horses always had one famous for following the dogs as they sped miles and miles away after foxes in winter-time. Fox-hunting was a grand pastime with the Radnor boys and men, in those days when foxes were plenty. Alan reached his home in the evening, and early next morning was along the creek and on the hill-side looking for plants. He was delighted with the variety and luxuriance of the flora of that hornblende region, and returned before breakfast bringing with him several plants. John inquired of him what he was going to do with them. Alan then explained to him the botanical systems of Jussieu and Linnaeus, and pulling to pieces the plants he had gathered, showed him how to analyze them. The quick mind of John Evans saw before him a new field to explore. The flowering plants, the weeds and briars, the evergreens and other trees growing around him were seen in a new light: where before there oftentimes seemed to be deformity and confusion, he then saw the order of nature. From that day the foxes were no longer molested by him; the hunting-horses and the hounds were forgotten, and instead of dashing at breakneck speed over the hills, he became, with his cousin, an explorer of nature. Together they often traveled over the same hills on

the lowlands of Delaware, Maryland, the sandy pine-woods of New Jersey, and even to the Adirondacks, for specimens of botany, geology, mineralogy and entomology, and in search of other scientific matters."

He died June 21, 1882, in his ninety-fifth year, and was buried in Friends' burying-ground at Plymouth, where he had been accustomed to attend meeting for nearly ninety years, the last seventy years, almost invariably, when well, twice a week.

Mary Corson, the second child of Joseph and Hannah Corson, married Charles Adamson, of this county. They, soon after marriage, moved to Chester County. Their children now living are Hannah, who married the widely-known philanthropist, the faithful anti-slavery and temperance advocate, one of the purest and best of men; they have several children. Mary's second child was Sarah, who, either inheriting or being taught the woman's rights principles so ardently cherished and advocated by her mother, and yearning for knowledge and work beyond the narrow bounds at that time accorded to woman, commenced the study of medicine, under the instruction of her uncle, Dr. Hiram Corson. At that time (1851) the medical schools of Philadelphia, New York, Boston and other places refused her admission to the lectures, as they had refused Elizabeth Blackwell, who finally succeeded in graduating at Geneva, in the State of New York—the first woman physician who obtained the degree of M.D. in the United States. Even the Geneva College had then, through fear of losing students, shut their doors against women; but fortunately a medical college was established at Syracuse, N. Y., which expressed a willingness to receive females. Thither she went, and in due time graduated. She then spent one year as an assistant to the physician in the Blockley Hospital, in Philadelphia; subsequently married Lester C. Dolley, M.D., a former professor in the medical school in which she had graduated. They both practiced in Rochester, N. Y., until his death very successfully. She still resides there, and enjoys a high place in the profession in that city.

Her only child, Dr. Charles Lester Dolley, occupies in the great Marine Laboratory at Naples the chair of biology accorded the University of Pennsylvania,—the only chair occupied by an American. He is there as the representative of the university. He is yet scarcely twenty-five years of age. Nearly every nation in Europe is represented in this great laboratory, some of them filling from six to twelve chairs, with the most skillful biologists known to the world. It will be no light work to cope with these scientists.

which he had followed the foxes, but it was now to study geology, mineralogy and botany. From that time until his death, nearly forty years, they made their excursions. From his "sand-garden," his "winter-garden" and his green-house, he sent many rare and valuable plants to the "Kew Gardens" of Queen Victoria. His home was a center to which lovers of nature delighted to come; his generosity to them had no bounds. Mrs. Elizabeth Abrams, of Norristown, and Mrs. Daniel Paxson, at the old home in Delaware County, are his only living children

The third child of Mary Corson is Thomas, who for nearly twenty years or more has been consul at Rio Janeiro, Pernambuco, Sandwich Islands, and consul-general in Australia, and is at present in Panama. He married Sarah Wright. They have two sons. Charles, the youngest son of Mary Corson, lives at Phoenixville, and is engaged in railroad business.

Though long an invalid, suffering from bronchial disease, Mrs. Adamson had her sitting-room and her bed-chamber always crowded with flowering plants,—a measure in direct opposition to the prevailing medical opinion of the time; but the pleasurable enjoyment of their presence, and her long life of eighty-five years, and the conviction in the minds of physicians of the present day prove the wisdom of her course. Her love of flowers, and her enjoyment of poetry, that essence of literature, were marked characteristics of her quiet, beautiful life.

Sarah Corson (third of Joseph Corson's children), born ———, married Thomas Read. With but a brief interval of two years, they always lived in the county. For many years he kept store at Hickorytown; afterwards owned and managed the mill in Upper Merion, near to Catfish dam.

They had several children,—

Sarah, married to Charles Jones, who resides in Conshohocken. Her son Joseph served through the war.

Hannah, married to George Schultz, whose two sons were both killed in the war of the Rebellion, one at Antietam, the other at Gettysburg.

Mary (married to John Roberts, now deceased), who still resides in Norristown.

Lewis W. Read, M.D., whose history appears elsewhere.

Joseph, who is a lumber merchant in Florida, and who bore an active part in the late war.

Alan Corson Read, a dentist, who has resided for more than twenty years in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Their mother died of consumption———. To her and her sister (Mary Adamson) were entrusted the care of their brothers (when William was yet only four years old) when their mother passed from them. For their loving care, their wise counsel and, shall I say, to their daily aspirations for protection from all that brings sorrow, these children have ever been grateful.

George Corson, the fourth of the six sons of Joseph and Hannah (Dickinson) Corson, was born First Month 4, 1803, in Plymouth township. He was an apt scholar, with a remarkable mathematical talent, a branch of learning in which his father had marked ability.

In his brother Alan's school, where were congregated some of the brightest boys from different parts of the country, he led them all in that branch of study, while in some other studies some of them surpassed him. In early manhood he engaged in store-keeping at Plymouth Meeting with Jonathan Maulsby,

and soon after married Martha, daughter of Samuel Maulsby (whose grandfather had come to America with William Penn,) and who then resided at Plymouth. Here George Corson continued in business for several years, until the death of his father-in-law, when he purchased the homestead and farm and lime-kilns, and then dropped the mercantile business to engage in farming and manufacturing lime. Here he continued in active and successful business until his death from consumption, November 18, 1880.

Moses Auge, in his "Biography of Men of Montgomery County," said of him, "He was justly distinguished for high moral qualities, being a most untiring anti-slavery man and temperance advocate." Few men have exerted a better influence in a neighborhood than the subject of this sketch. Though never a member of Friends' Meeting, he was a frequent attendant there, and his family were brought up in accord with the principles of the society.

On engaging in the lime business, where the men employed had been in the habit of whipping and abusing the horses, he exercised a marked influence for good. Not a man was allowed to strike or maltreat a horse; even drivers in the employ of other people were often stopped in their abuse of animals by his fearless interference. No threat of injury from the driver for a moment checked him. Often were whips and even clubs raised to strike, but those who raised them quailed before the courage and demands of the friend of the noble animal.

At this time, too, every workman in the quarries and at the kilns had to be supplied with whisky, as much as he chose to have. He at once announced that no liquor would be furnished; none allowed at the works. The skilled workmen at once left. In present parlance, there was a strike. Nothing daunted, he called raw hands to the work, supervised the parts which demanded skill in management and succeeded in his purpose. No kiln of lime had been burned before that time but by the aid of whisky.

In 1830, Benjamin Sundy, the little, meek New Jersey Quaker, the first of American Abolitionists, came to Plymouth to speak about slavery, to show that Southern slave-holders were contriving to embroil us with Mexico, in order that we could then have a pretense to sever Texas from that country, so that slavery could be spread over a new and fertile country of great extent. He had traveled through that then sparsely-settled region, had mingled with Southern slave-holders and had become cognizant of their schemes. His visit North was to get subscribers to the "Genius of Universal Emancipation," which he was then publishing in Baltimore occasionally, and to awaken here an anti-slavery sentiment. He came to George Corson's. A meeting was called; only a few persons came. Alan, George and Hiram Corson, Jonathan Maulsby and two or three others. This was the beginning of George Corson's giving a home and en-

tainment to anti-slavery lecturers,—the beginning of a generous hospitality which was continued to them for thirty years. From that time George Corson and his wife threw open their house to all the anti-slavery speakers. It was there that Garrison, McKim, Lucretia Mott, Mary Grew, Abbie Foster (*née* Kelly), Charles and Cyrus Burleigh and many others were welcomed and entertained. This will seem a trifling thing to many to speak of now, but to those who know how Abolitionists were denounced by nearly the whole people, even by the ministers in their pulpits, who called them infidels, and that even Friends treated their members who joined the Abolitionists with extreme coldness, how the vulgar people cursed and threatened them,—those who know these things, know that no faint-hearted, cowardly man was then an Abolitionist. While every brother and sister of George Corson was an outspoken Abolitionist and warm in the cause, there was not one of them that entertained the despised members of the Anti-Slavery Society so much as his family did. But this was partly owing to the fact of its greater convenience to the lecturers to stay with them. And this brings me to another event worth naming. Even the Friends at Plymouth, after the anti-slavery crusade got fairly started, refused the meeting-house to the anti-slavery people. Every church and school-house, with rare exceptions, was shut against them; and even when granted, the meetings were disturbed, not only by men sometimes drunk and noisy, but often by "persons of property and standing," as was the "Boston mob." The subject of our sketch therefore determined to build a hall, over which he could have control. He made quite a large one and furnished it well with seats, warmed and lighted it at his own expense. And now we can see how convenient it was for the lecturers to make his house their temporary home. As time wore on more and more neighbors and friends were attracted to the meetings to hear the eloquent and earnest men and women who pictured the atrocities of slavery. Many, too, were the fugitives fleeing from slavery whom his family entertained, by night and by day, in his home and in the hall.

Time flew along. George Corson, worn down with consumption, died in ——. The war which sunk slavery forever and gave freedom to four million human beings, was brought on by John Brown in 1861. Before his death George had sent his young daughter to the School of Design, in Philadelphia. After completing her studies there she spent several years studying art in Paris, then returned and made the old hall her studio. A few years later she was married to Thomas Hovenden, an artist, whose beautiful picture entitled "Elaine" had attracted much attention. Mr. Hovenden was sought by a gentleman in New York to paint him a picture of John Brown. The most liberal offer was made, and Mr. Hovenden undertook the work, on a design of his own. The old hall then became the studio of Mr. Hovenden, and there was designed and

completed the great painting, now on exhibition in New York, "John Brown coming from the Charleston Jail with a rope about his neck, on his way to execution."

It may not be deemed inappropriate to introduce here a brief extract from a published criticism of Mr. Hovenden's picture, just as it was about being sent from the studio,—

"George Corson, one of the fathers of the present generation (of Corsons), was an earnest Abolitionist, and dwelt in an ancient homestead immediately opposite the Hicksite Plymouth Meeting. His home was a centre of the active agitation which friends and foes united in regarding as a harbinger of war. To furnish accommodations elsewhere denied for the gatherings of the faithful, he erected on his premises a good-sized hall, where many notable meetings, conferences and conventions were held and much weighty business transacted. His place, too, became an important Underground Railroad station, and the entertainment of unexpected guests of dusky hue at breakfast is one of the memories of the family. This old homestead is to-day the residence of Thomas Hovenden, the historic painter, and his wife, also a distinguished artist, Helen Corson Hovenden, the daughter of George Corson.

"That old anti-slavery centre is now a centre of artistic interests, and the gatherings of fleeing slaves and their Abolition friends have been succeeded by weekly levees attended by painters, sculptors, literary folk and lovers of art, the traditional hospitality of the household being delightfully maintained. By one of those coincidences which cannot fail to excite interest, whether regarded as significant or not, it was to this home that Thomas Hovenden came, two years ago, when he received a commission for a picture of John Brown. Amid the association and memories which cling about this Underground Railroad station the picture has been painted. The 'Anti-Slavery Hall' was converted into a studio, and there the first sketches and drafts were made. 'Mr. Hovenden built a studio especially adapted to his purpose when he determined what conditions would be required, but the tentative work, deciding on the subject, composition and treatment, was done in the Abolitionists' meeting room.'"

That room is still the studio of Mrs. Hovenden.

There is another incident which shows the zeal and courage of him of whom we write, which we may mention here. As he was one day coming home from his brother's, Charles Corson's, on the back road east of Shannonville, he overtook a man riding on horseback, while behind him walked a black man with a rope around his neck, one end of it being fast to the saddle of the rider. Mr. Corson was also on horseback, and on coming alongside the stranger asked him why the man was thus tied. He replied that he had been his slave, had run away and that he had found him and was taking him home. After some more talk George hurried on to Norristown, and when the master and slave arrived had them arrested and taken before a magistrate. The slave-holder procured a lawyer; the magistrate's office was filled with people indignant that a "Southern gentleman" (?) should be thus insulted and Norristown disgraced by such an unwarrantable proceeding. The magistrate decided that "the master had a right to his property," and the prosecutor had to pay the costs. "The master has a right to his property,"—"You want to rob him of his property,"—was the battle-cry of the opponents of the Abolitionists at that time. George Corson was a small man, and in his latter years a weak one, but a braver, truer man never stood by a friend in his hour of peril.

Of the children of George and Martha Maulsby Corson a few brief words. Mary died in infancy.

Susan died in her fifteenth year. Dr. Marcus H. died in his twenty-third year, of consumption. This son was a youth of remarkable talents, but fell a victim to disease soon after his graduation at the University of Pennsylvania. Possessed of a remarkable memory, and having a great craving for knowledge, he gave promise of eminence in his profession, but the hopes of his friends were soon blighted by his early death.

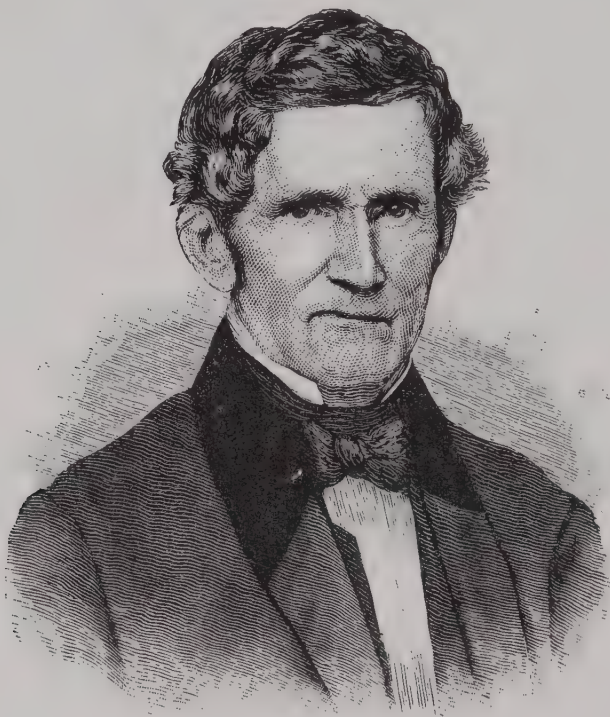
Samuel M. graduated in the Literary Department of the University of Pennsylvania, afterwards studied law in ———, and began practice in Philadelphia. Like his brother, Marcus H., he was a brilliant scholar, but was not fitted for the law; it was distasteful to him.

Helen Corson, the oldest living daughter, now wife of Thomas Hovenden, has already been sufficiently referred to in this history of her father and mother. She and her husband occupy the old homestead, and both are earnest and aspiring in their profession. They have two children.

Miss Ida Corson is a graduate of Vassar College, and quite remarkable for her mathematical ability. She resides at Washington, D. C., with her uncle, Dr. George Maulsby, surgeon in the United States navy.

THOMAS LIVEZEY.

His father, Samuel Livezey, was of Welsh origin, a



Thomas Livezey

Literature was his delight. He was a book-worm. For several years he taught school in Whitmarsh township, near to his old home, with great success, and while so engaged wrote many interesting articles for the public papers. A modest, kind gentleman and scholar, he died in 1883, and was buried, as were all his father's family then deceased, in the Friends' burying-ground near his birth-place.

There are of George Corson's children still living only Ellwood, Helen and Ida.

Dr. Ellwood M. Corson is the only surviving son of George and Martha Corson. A sketch of his life appears in the chapter upon the Medical Profession.

minister of the Society of Friends, and with his wife, Mary, settled in Plymouth township, Montgomery Co., in 1788, where he reared his family and died. The children of Samuel and Mary Livezey were Thomas, Martha (married Jacob Albertson), Rachel (married Jonathan Maulsby), Samuel, Mary (married Lewis Jones), Joseph, and Ann (who married William Ely).

Thomas Livezey, born the 27th of Fourth Month, 1803, died in his native township, Plymouth, on the 2d of Tenth Month, 1879. A friend of Thomas Livezey paid him the following tribute at his death:

"His brothers selecting other business, he became

a farmer and store-keeper. The estate left him by his father he kept intact, having died on the farm on which he was born, and he leaves a good estate besides. He was a director in the Bank of Montgomery County during its controversy with the late David M. Conkey, in which the bank came off victorious, also a director in the First National Bank of Norristown, and for many years he was a school director.

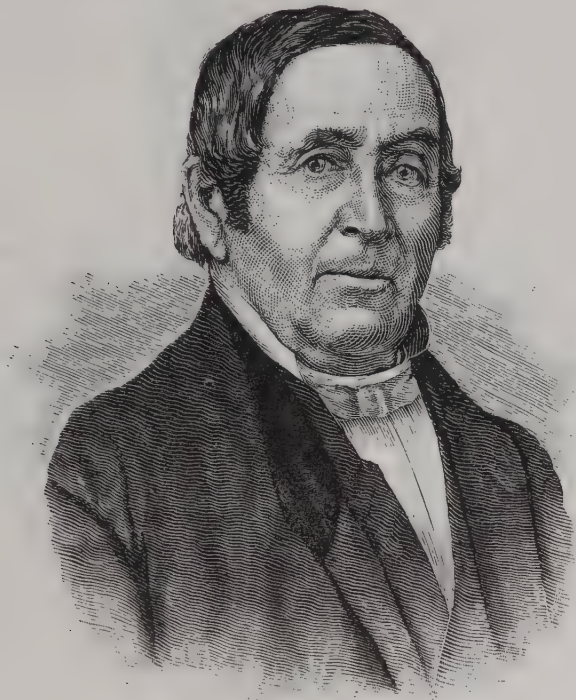
"He was a member of Friends' Meeting at Plymouth, and though he did not have a gift in the ministry, as his father had, yet he wielded a large influence in the meeting, and his opinions were always respected. As a business man he lacked nothing in ability or integrity. He lived to see the flail, the rake, the scythe and the pitch-fork, which he had wielded

from England about 1784, and settled at Peale Hall, in Philadelphia. She survives in 1885. Their children are seven sons, viz.: Dr. Edward Livezey (1833-1876), studied medicine with Dr. Hiram Corson, was graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in the spring of 1859, served one and one-half years in Wills' Eye Hospital, one year in the Pennsylvania Hospital, afterward in the Government Hospital at Broad and Cherry Streets, and subsequently located at 507 North Sixth Street, Philadelphia, where he continued to enjoy a large practice until his death.

Samuel, in the packing business, Chicago.

Joseph R., engaged in the real estate business in Philadelphia.

John R. (1842-1867), studied conveyancing with



JONATHAN JONES.

on many a weary day, give place to the threshing-machine, the horse-rake, the mowing-machine and the horse-fork. He saw the dirt road substituted by the turnpike road, and it, in turn, give way to the railroad; his leather and wooden springs supplanted by the steel springs under his carriage, and they, in turn, by the passenger car; the mail-bags on horse-back by express trains; and the special messenger by the telegraph. Finally, he lived to see his country redeem herself from the sin of slavery, and re-enter upon a new career of business prosperity."

His wife, Rachel, born at Attleboro', Bucks Co. Pa., on the 27th of Eighth Month, 1808, whom he married on the 18th day of the Tenth Month, 1832, was the daughter of Joseph and Mary Richardson, who came

Nathan R. Potts, of Philadelphia, where he had a lucrative business.

Henry (1843-1846).

Henry, 2d. (1847-1873), read law with Judge F. C. Brewster, of Philadelphia, and D. H. Mulvany, of Norristown; was admitted to practice at the Montgomery County bar, November 10, 1869, and at the time of his death he was associated with the present Judge Boyer.

Thomas Ellwood, a farmer on the home-stead.

JONATHAN JONES.

Isaac Jones, the father of the subject of this biographical sketch, resided at Conshohocken, where he cultivated a productive farm. He was three times

married, his first wife, the mother of Jonathan Jones, being Elizabeth Yerkes, whose children were John, William, Jonathan, Ann, Susan (Mrs. Thomas Hopkins), Charles, Elizabeth (Mrs. Charles Sheppard). Jonathan was born on the 10th of January, 1800, in Whitmarsh township, and in youth received a common school education, after which his time and skill were devoted to the farm which his father owned and cultivated. At the age of twenty-five he married Eliza, daughter of John and Anna Davis, of Plymouth, and had children,—Anne J. (Mrs. Samuel Foulke), Evan D., Elwood (deceased), Esther, Elizabeth J. (Mrs. Wil-

liberal in his estimate of the character and motives of others. These qualities caused him frequently to be made arbiter in the adjustment of differences among his neighbors, and rendered his services invaluable as guardian and trustee. He was a Whig, and later a Republican in politics, but not active as a politician. He was by birthright a Friend, and one of the most useful representatives of that denomination at the time of his death, which occurred October 5, 1867.

JESSE SHEPARD.

The Shepard family are of English descent. Thomas



liam Webster), J. Davis (deceased) and Rachel (deceased). Mr. Jones, on his marriage, removed to a farm located in Plymouth, owned by his father-in-law, Mr. Davis, which for twenty-one years he cultivated, and on the death of the latter removed to the Davis homestead, where he resided during the remainder of his life, his widow and two daughters being now the occupants of the farm. Mr. Jones possessed excellent business qualifications, combining much judgment and sagacity with the most absolute integrity. In connection with his farm, he conducted a successful lumber trade at Conshohocken. Mr. Jones was a man of benevolent and kindly instincts, with a keen sense of justice and

Shepard, the father of the subject of this biographical sketch, resided in Whitmarsh township, where he followed his trade of carpenter, combined with which were the frequent duties of an undertaker. He married Miss Sarah Streaper, whose children were Deborah (Mrs. Henry Zern, of Indiana), John, Thomas, Charles and Jesse. The death of Mr. Shepard occurred on the 4th of October, 1821, in his fifty-fourth year, and Mrs. Shepard died on the 20th of the same month during the year following. Their youngest son, Jesse, was born September 30, 1814, in Whitmarsh township, and during his youth attended the paid schools of the neighborhood, after which he

learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, under the direction of his brother John. While still pursuing his trade he, at the age of twenty-one, removed to the farm which is his present residence, and combined the labor of the farmer with that of a cabinet-maker. In 1866 he retired from the latter occupation, and has since devoted his time exclusively to the superintendence of his farming interests. Mr. Shepard was married to Harriet Y. Schultz, granddaughter of Christopher Yeakle, of Chestnut Hill, and daughter of Henry W. Schultz, of Whitmarsh township. Their children are Sarah, Anna E. (Mrs. Abram A. Yeakle), Henry W. S., Charles E. and John S. Mr. Shepard votes the Republican ticket most frequently, but reserves to himself the right to cast an independent ballot when party measures or candidates challenge his approval. Though the incumbent of various minor township offices in the past, he usually declines such distinctions. In religion he worships with the Friends at Plymouth Meeting.

CHAPTER LXIX.

POTTSGROVE TOWNSHIP.

THIS township is situated in the extreme western corner of the county, and the uppermost on the river, and is bounded northeast by Douglas and New Hanover, southeast by Limerick, south by the Schuylkill and the borough of Pottstown and west and northwest by Berks County. Its length is five miles, average breadth three and a half miles, with an area of eleven thousand six hundred square acres, or about eighteen square miles. The entire southern portion of the township, especially that portion which lies between the Reading turnpike and the river, is fertile and well cultivated. The eastern part is more rolling, and towards the Douglas, New Hanover and Limerick line is quite hilly. Among the most prominent elevations can be named Ringing Hill, Stone Hill, Prospect Hill and the Fox Hills. The soil on these elevations is generally thin and very stony. Pottsgrove is pretty well watered by the Manatawny and Sprogel's Creeks, Sanatoga and Goose Runs and their various branches. The Manatawny is the largest stream, which rises in Rockland township, Berks Co., and after a general southeast course of about eighteen miles empties into the Schuylkill at the borough of Pottstown. Of its length, two miles are in this township, in which distance it propels three grist-mills. The earliest mention we have found of this stream is from a visit of Governor Gordon in its vicinity in 1728. He calls it the "Mahanatawny." It is an Indian name, and Heckewelder says in their language it signified "where we drank." Sprogel's Run is wholly in this township, rising in the Fox Hills, and after a southeast course of four miles empties into the Schuylkill. It propels

only a clover and chopping-mill. It is called by this name on Scull's map of 1770. Formerly, on its banks, near the centre of the township, a copper-mine was worked. Sanatoga Run, though only about three and a half miles in length, furnishes valuable water-power. It rises by two branches in New Hanover township with a general southwest course, and propels in Pottsgrove four grist and three saw-mills. This stream has an Indian name, and we find it variously spelled,—on Scull's map of 1770, Sanatoga; on Howell's map of 1792, Sanatoga; and the same on the county maps of 1849 and 1857.

Among the natural curiosities of Montgomery County may be mentioned the Ringing Rocks, as they are called, on Stone Hill, which are situated about three miles northeast of Pottstown. They consist of a bed of trap rocks; exceedingly hard and compact, which, on being struck with a hammer, ring like iron. The rocks are piled on one another and cover about one and a half acres of ground, within which space no trees or bushes are found growing. It is supposed that the largest rocks would weigh from five to twenty-five tons each, and some of the apertures are visible to the depth of twenty-five feet. A number of impressions can be seen on them, among which are three closely resembling the human foot, from three to six inches in depth, and also a number resembling the tracks of horses, elephants, and cannon-balls of from six to twelve inches in diameter. The sounds emitted by these rocks are various, depending on their size and shape. Some, when struck, resemble the ringing of anvils, others of church-bells, with all the intermediate tones. In fact, there is not a note in music that has not here a corresponding key. As Aristotle has stated that in every block of marble there is a statue, but it took a sculptor to find it, so it might be said of these rocks, in every one there is some note in music, but it would still require the aid of a musician to verify it. The German inhabitants of the neighborhood from an early period have given this hill the name of Klingeberg, signifying Ringing Hill. On the west end of Stone Hill, about two miles from Pottstown, a fine view is obtained of the surrounding country. The hills of the Schuylkill can be traced in Chester and Berks Counties for thirty or forty miles.

Pottsgrove was erected into a township in 1807, and its territory was taken from the townships of Douglas and New Hanover. William Penn, the 25th of October, 1701, conveyed to his son, John Penn, a tract of twelve thousand acres of land, which the latter, the 20th of June, 1735, sold to George McCall, a merchant of Philadelphia, for the sum of two thousand guineas, or, in our present currency, nine thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars. On a resurvey it was found to contain fourteen thousand and sixty acres. This purchase comprised all of the present township of Douglas and the upper half of Pottsgrove and the whole of Pottstown to the Schuylkill. According to

the records, it was commonly called "McCall's Manor" down to 1753. George McCall was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and after his arrival here became a successful merchant in Philadelphia. There is reason to believe that he first built the iron-works in this township, which he called after the place of his nativity, and which has been retained to this day. Judging by the extensive purchase he made here, he must have been a man of some means. In 1722 he was elected a member of the City Council, and died in 1740. Among the first settlers of the township was John Henry Sprogel, who, with his brother Lodwick Christian Sprogel, by invitation of William Penn, came to this country from Holland. They were both naturalized in 1705, and John Henry purchased here about six hundred acres, on which he settled with his family. The present Sprogel's Run was called after him and flows through this tract. From the dates upon different stones in the ancient burial-ground, east of the borough line, it is inferred that he must have been amongst the first that resided in the township. John Potts, in 1753, lived in Pottsgrove (now called Pottstown), after whom both the borough and this township have been named.

By the act of April 11, 1807, it was enacted

"That the Sixth Election District shall be composed of the township of Pottsgrove, lately erected from a part of New Hanover and a part of Douglas, and shall hold their elections at the house of Wm. Leshner, Pottstown, and the electors of the remainder of the township of Douglas and New Hanover at the house of Henry Kreps, New Hanover."

The Court of Quarter Sessions, June 10, 1875, divided the present township into what is called the Upper and Lower Election Districts.

Pottsgrove, according to the census of 1810, contained 1571 inhabitants; in 1820, 1882; in 1830, 1302; in 1840, 1361; in 1850, 1689; and in 1880, 3985. The number of taxables in 1828 was 252; in 1849, 351; in 1858, 406; in 1875, 937; in 1884, 1225. By the triennial assessment of 1858 the real estate was valued at \$348,511, and the horses and neat cattle at \$15,136. In 1884 the value of improved lands was \$1,588,830; value of unimproved lands, \$116,535; value of 443 horses, \$26,125; value of 950 cattle, \$24,000; value of all property taxable for county purposes, \$1,884,510.

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad passes through the whole length of the township, a distance of five miles, with a station at Sanatoga; the Colebrookdale has a course of more than two miles, with a station at Glasgow, and connects with the main line at Pottstown.

The villages are Crooked Hill, Glasgow, Grosstown and Half-Way.

Glasgow is a small manufacturing village about one and a half miles north from Pottstown, and is the site of the Glasgow Iron-Works and Rolling-Mills. George McCall, by his will, dated September 21, 1739, bequeathed five hundred acres of what was known as McCall's Manor to his son, Alexander McCall, and which subsequently became known as the Forge

Tract. Alexander McCall sold the Forge property to Joseph and John Potts and James Hackley. In 1789 it was sold at sheriff's sale to David Rutter and Joseph Potts, Jr. Rutter, in the same year, sold his share to Samuel Potts, who, by will, in 1793, authorized his sons to sell his interest, and February 13, 1797, it was conveyed to Joseph Potts, Jr., who was the owner of the other half. It was continued by Joseph Potts, Jr., and his family until March 12, 1832, when it was sold to Jacob Weaver, Jr. In 1820 there were at the place a small sheet-iron mill, two bloomeries, a grist-mill, a saw-mill, two mansion-houses, ten log tenant-houses and two stone tenant-houses. After the purchase by Weaver ten stone tenant-houses in one row were erected and the other houses were abandoned. Weaver assigned the property September 2, 1846, and on April 5, 1847, the assignee conveyed it to James Rittenhouse, David and William Schall. About this time a stone school-house was erected, which is still used. Jacob Weaver also built a furnace, which was, however, not successful. The Forge property passed, in 1864, to James Hilton, and in 1873 to Joseph L. Bailey and Comley B. Shoemaker. About 1874 a brick school-house was erected, which is used by the Methodists, who are supplied with preaching mostly by the Methodist pastors of Pottstown. Glasgow at present contains the iron-works of the Glasgow Iron Company, several fine residences of the proprietors and about eighteen other dwellings.

Grosstown is a small settlement about two miles west of Pottstown, on the Philadelphia, Reading and Perkiomen turnpike. It contains at present a half-dozen houses, school-house and blacksmith-shop. It derived its name from a family by the name of Gross, who lived there seventy or eighty years ago, and who disappeared from that neighborhood over fifty years since.

Crooked Hill is a hamlet containing fifteen or twenty houses, a post-office, hotel, store, school-house and grist-mill. It is situated on Crooked Hill Run, northerly from Sanatoga Station, on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, and three miles east from Pottstown on the old Philadelphia, Reading and Perkiomen turnpike. Sixty years ago the tavern was kept by Levi Windermuth. The grist-mill, and, later the post-office, were kept by one of the family. It was a favorite stopping-place for teamsters on the turnpike, which was one of the great routes of travel. It derived its name from the peculiar formation of hills in the vicinity.

There are eighteen public schools in the township, with nine hundred and twenty pupils. Twenty teachers (ten males and ten females) are employed, at a salary of thirty-two dollars per month. The school term is six months. For the school year ending with June 1, 1857, the schools were open only four months and attended by four hundred and eighty-five pupils. The sum of fourteen hundred and fifty dollars was levied to defray the expenses of the same.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

WILLIAM BROOKE.

Thomas Brooke, the father of the subject of this biographical sketch, resided on the Brooke homestead, in Pottsgrove township, still in possession of the family, where he was both a successful farmer and an iron-master. He was married to Miss Anna Grant, whose youngest son, William, was born at the homestead on the 8th of January, 1792. After securing such rudimentary education as was obtainable at

laurels and the rank of major-general during the war of the Rebellion, and subsequently entered the regular army and was made commandant of Fort Shaw, Mont.; Caroline (Mrs. Samuel S. Campbell); and Mary (Mrs. William Hopkins). Major Brooke affiliated with the Old-Line Whig party during its existence, and was subsequently a staunch supporter of the Republican party, its platform and principles. Though public-spirited and well-informed in all questions of the day, he was averse to the excitements and indifferent to the honors attending a political career. His sympathies during the late war were



WILLIAM BROOKE.

that early day, he was attracted to the congenial life of the agriculturist, first as assistant to his father and later as general superintendent of his farming interests. On the death of the latter he became the owner, by inheritance, of the estate, where the whole of his life was spent in the cultivation of its productive land. He in early life entered the service during the war of 1812, though his command did not participate in any important engagements. Major Brooke was, in 1837, married to Miss Martha, daughter of David Rutter, of Pine Forge Works, in Berks County. Their children are John R., who won distinguished

manifested not only in expressions of loyalty to the Union cause, but in more practical form when substantial aid was needed. He was educated in the faith of the Society of Friends, to which he adhered through life, worshiping with the Friends' Meeting at Pottstown. Major Brooke bore a reputation for scrupulous honor and the most unquestionable integrity in both his social and business relations, having been in his character and bearing a fine example of the old-school gentleman. His death occurred at Pottstown on the 7th of October, 1872, in his eighty-first year.

CHAPTER LXX.

PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP.¹

WHEN William Penn, as the true and absolute proprietary of the province, sold the lands of the commonwealth, he reserved for himself a large tract of the land on the east side of the Schuylkill River. It embraced the whole of the present townships of Upper Providence and Lower Providence and parts of the townships of Perkiomen and Worcester. The tract was named by him "The Manor of Gilberts," and was so known for many years. The name was in honor of Penn's mother, who was of the family of Gilberts. One of the early purchasers of land in this manor was Jacob Tellner, one of the founders of Germantown, who owned a large tract along the Skippack Creek, which now constitutes the northwest corner of the present township of Lower Providence. For many years, from about the year 1700, the land lying along the Skippack Creek was known as Tellner township, while that between the Skippack and Perkiomen, was called "Perkoming," the present township of Perkiomen being then known as "Van Bebber's township." At the March term of court, 1725, the petition of divers inhabitants along the Perquomin Creek was presented, praying the court to establish a township of the territory upon which they resided. This petition was signed by William Lane, Samuel Lane, James Lane, Peter Rambo, John Morris, James Shatlick, Richard Jones, Thomas Diemer, — Casselberry, Thomas Loch, John Bull, Richard Adams, Thomas Potts, Daniel Philips and Lewis Rees. At that time nothing was done. At the March Sessions, 1729, a new petition of the same persons was presented, accompanied by a draft of the proposed township, and setting forth the bounds and limits thereof as follows:

¹ Beginning at a hickory, marked for a corner, standing in the line of Isaac Norris's land; thence extending by the same southwest twelve hundred perches to a Gum tree standing by Schuylkill side; thence up the same the several courses twenty-two hundred and ninety-one perches to a Hickory at a corner of Limerick Township; thence by the same northeast thirteen hundred perches to a Hickory, a corner of Bebber's land; thence by the line of said Bebber's land on Skippack southwest and New Bristol township (so called) twenty-two hundred and ninety perches, to the place of beginning. Containing by computation, 17,892 acres and 30 perches."

On the 2d of March, 1729, the court decreed that the territory just specified be erected into a township, and the same be called by the name of "Providence township."

The origin of the name of "Providence" is not certainly known. Tradition says it was settled by some of the followers of Roger Williams, of Rhode Island. Nearly a century before this time the settlement in Rhode Island had been named "Providence." Hence his followers coming here called this region "New Providence." In most of the old documents it

is called New Providence. Another more plausible theory is that it received its name from one of the West Indies Islands, viz., "New Providence." Craig, an early settler, came from that place, while the Lanes and Richardsons, two of the foremost families of the township, came from the neighboring Island of Jamaica. After a time the township lost the "New" and retained as its name simply "Providence."

This township, or, as it is now, townships of Upper Providence and Lower Providence, face the Schuylkill River, and constitute the central townships of the county. They are bounded on the west by Limerick, on the north by Perkiomen and Worcester, on the east by Norriton and on the south by the Schuylkill River. The surface of both townships is rolling, the soil is mostly red shale and very productive, especially along the rivers Schuylkill and Perkiomen. There is very little waste land. The Perkiomen Creek, which forms the natural division line between the two townships, is the largest stream in Montgomery County. It is about thirty miles in length, following its meanderings. The name Perkiomen is of Indian origin, and means "the place where grow the cranberries." The spelling of this name has undergone many changes. In Penn's deed of purchase it is called "Pah-he-homa." In Nicholas Scull's map it is spelled "Perquamink." Afterwards we find it known as "Perquoming," "Perkioming," "Perkoming," "Perkionan," "Perquoning," "Perquonum," "Perquomin," and later as "Perkiomen."

The Mingo Creek rises in Limerick township and runs through the western part of Upper Providence, where it empties itself into the Schuylkill. Its stream is weak. Another small stream, known as Zimmerman's Run, rises near Trappe and empties into the Perkiomen, near Yerkes. In Lower Providence there are two streams of water,—the Skippack and Mine Run. The Skippack is about seventeen miles in length and empties into the Perkiomen, at Arcola. Its name, which is of Indian origin, and means "a stagnant stream" or "pool of water," symbolized its nature. Mine Run rises in the township and is about three miles in length, and it empties into the Perkiomen, at Oaks.

It would be impossible to give the history of the roads of the township. The Great road from Philadelphia to the Perkiomen is a very ancient one. In 1709 this road was extended towards Reading. The petition therefor is signed by John Henry Sproggell, Morris Jones, John Newman, Matthew Brooks, Robert Belling and Henry Paukor, and recites that they have "plantations lying very remote in the county, and on the edge or outskirts of any inhabitants of the county, and no public road; they therefore pray for a road from the late house of Edward Lane deceased, being in the Queen's highway, unto Maunitauna, etc."

In 1734 a jury consisting of Richard Jones, Christopher Zimmerman, John Umstat, Joseph Armstrong,

¹ By F. G. Hobson.

John Bull and Samuel Evans, laid out a road from Henry Pawling's plantation to the road or cartway leading to Norriton Mills, and thence, by or near the mill formerly belonging to Edward Lane, to St. James' Church on Manatawny road in Providence.

In 1736 a public road was laid out which now constitutes the Ridge turnpike road.

In public improvements Providence has its full share. The Perkiomen and Reading turnpike road was completed in 1815. It runs from the Perkiomen Bridge to Reading. It passes three and one-half miles through the township. The Perkiomen and Sumneytown turnpike road was incorporated in 1845. This

Perkiomen Railroad, running from Perkiomen to Allentown, Lehigh Co., passes through the whole length of the township along the Perkiomen Creek. There are four stations in the township, viz.: Oaks, Arcola, Yerkess and Collegeville, the last being the most important. The road was opened to travel as far as Collegeville on May 8, 1868, and was gradually extended to Allentown. The Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad passes along the east side of the Schuylkill the entire length of both townships. It was completed in 1884, and has four stations,—Port Kennedy, Perkiomen, Port Providence and Mont Clare. There are four bridges spanning the Perkiomen,



PERKIOMEN BRIDGE, BUILT 1798.

road is eleven miles in length, one mile of which is in the township, where it terminates at Perkiomen Bridge. In Lower Providence there are two turnpike roads, both beginning at the eastern end of Perkiomen Bridge at Collegeville. Both the Germantown and Perkiomen road and the Ridge Turnpike road have been neglected for many years, and no tolls are collected for travel thereon. The burden of keeping them in repair has thus fallen on the townships.

There are three railroads. The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad runs about two miles through Upper Providence, with one station, "Mingo." The

connecting Upper Providence with Lower Providence, viz.: at Collegeville, Yerkess, Arcola, and Oaks. The latter three are wooden superstructures erected upon stone piers and abutments, while the one at Collegeville is a fine stone structure, and known as "The Perkiomen Bridge." In addition, there is a county bridge over the Mingo, and one near the almshouse over a small stream. In Lower Providence there are two county bridges over the Skippack, one on each of the turnpikes. In addition, there are two pay bridges over the Schuylkill, one at Port Kennedy and the other at Pawling. In Upper Providence there are also two pay bridges across the Schuylkill. The

bridge at Quincyville was incorporated in 1844, and built shortly thereafter. The one at Black Rock was built in 1860, and cost nineteen thousand dollars. There are also four fine railroad bridges in the township,—an iron one over the Perkiomen, on the line of the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad; a frame one over the Schuylkill, on the Perkiomen Railroad; a stone bridge over the same river on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad; and an iron structure over the Schuylkill at Mount Clare, on the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad, erected in 1884. The present bridge structure at Collegeville is the oldest in the township. The place where the bridge now stands was known before this time as "Philip's Ford." It was a very dangerous one, Henry Buckwalter having drowned there, April 14, 1787, by reason of his horse stumbling. Many unsuccessful attempts were made to procure a bridge at this place. In the year 1794 the Legislature appropriated money to this object on condition that the county would furnish the balance. A petition was presented to the Montgomery County court, at May Sessions, 1795, asking for two thousand pounds towards building this bridge, which was allowed. This sum was seen to be so insufficient that the commissioners refused to proceed. Another petition was therefore presented at the May term, 1796, asking for an additional appropriation of a sum sufficient to warrant the completion of the work. The grand jury unanimously recommended an additional two thousand pounds. On August 10, 1796, the court (Robert Loller judge) refused to concur. The people then again had recourse to the General Assembly of the State.

On the 21st of February, 1797, the Legislature passed "An Act for raising, by way of lottery, the sum of twenty thousand dollars, to be applied to the erection of a stone-arched bridge over the Perkioming Creek, in Montgomery County, on the road leading from Philadelphia to the borough of Reading."

The following persons were named as commissioners to superintend the drawings of this lottery, viz., Peter Muhlenberg, John Richards, Samuel Baird, Francis Swaine, Moses Hobson, Frederick Conrad, Samuel Markley, Francis Nicholas, William Smith, Philip Boyer, Elisha Evans, James Bean, John Markley, Robert Kennedy and John Elliot, nearly all of whom lived in this vicinity.

There were two drawings of ten thousand tickets each. The first was commenced July 17, 1797, and continued twenty-one days. The capital prize of \$3000 was drawn by No. 8252. No. 1268 drew \$1000; No. 6785, \$500. The second-class was drawn November 1, 1798, and continued twenty-five days. The \$1000 prize was drawn by No. 2376. No. 9823 drew \$500. On July 24, 1797, the county commissioners,—Frederick Conrad, Moses Hobson, Samuel Maulsby,—together with the judges of the court,—Messrs. Loller, Rittenhouse and Markley, met at the public-house of Elisha

Evans. They there decided that the bridge should consist of arches,—three of fifty feet, two of forty-five feet, two of thirty-five feet, two of thirty feet, and two of twenty feet. This was afterwards changed, and the bridge was built with but six arches. The contracts for the various works at the mill were given out March 23, 1798. At the end of the year the county had expended the sum of \$34,683.12, and the bridge was only one-half completed.

On March 28, 1799, an act was passed in the General Assembly which gave the commissioners power to complete the bridge and charge toll for persons passing over the same. This was to be charged until the tolls so received were sufficient to pay the whole cost of building the same, together with the costs for collecting the toll. As soon as this was accomplished the court was to declare the same a free bridge. The bridge was finished in 1799 in the style it now stands. It cost the county about sixty thousand dollars. The formal dedication took place on the 4th of November. Samuel Bard was toll-gatherer. It was declared free by the court some five years later, and became a county bridge. The Legislature in chartering the Perkiomen and Reading Turnpike Road Company, March 20, 1819, gave the custody of this bridge into the hands of the company, in whose hands it has been ever since. A toll-house was erected at the west end of the bridge in July, 1867. Before its completion the house was burned by incendiaries, and the gate removed and thrown into the Perkiomen Creek. In October, 1872, the Turnpike Company again erected a toll-house at the east end. This led to litigation, and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania decided that the company, under their charter, could not maintain a gate within one mile of said bridge. January 30, 1873, the decision of the court of last resort was announced. That same evening the old toll-house shared the fate of its predecessor, being burned down. The bridge stands to-day as it was built, an everlasting monument to the memory of the men who built the same, and a splendid model for bridge-builders of the present time to take pattern of.

The bridge over the Skippack, below the village of Evansburg, is on the site of the first bridge built in the township. The predecessor of the one now standing was built by lottery, as was the bridge over the Perkiomen, but we have very little data as to the circumstances. The Legislature, by act of September 20, 1765, created certain commissioners, who were empowered to receive such sums of money as were due by the managers of a lottery, and to receive voluntary subscriptions and donations towards the better perfecting of a bridge over the Skippack Creek, in the county of Philadelphia. This old bridge has long since been destroyed and the present structure erected in its place.

Near the village of Shannonville is Pawling's bridge, over the Schuylkill. There was a bridge here in 1778, as Colonel John Bull made a report to the Executive

Committee, on August 31, 1778, as to the condition of "the Bridge over Schuylkil at ye Fattlandford, near the Valey Forge;" in consequence of which report the same was then repaired. This bridge was, no doubt, built for military purposes, and was subsequently washed away. Near its site was a bridge erected about the year 1809, as on April 3d of that year the company was chartered. The bridge was destroyed in 1820 by ice, in a high freshet, but was shortly afterwards rebuilt.

Of the early settlers in Providence township quite a number are worthy of special mention.

Edward Lane, an Englishman, came from Jamaica in 1684. On the 9th of Twelfth Month, 1698-9, he purchased two thousand five hundred acres of land from Thomas Fairman, which was confirmed to him by patent, in 1701, by William Penn. This tract was situated on both sides of the Perkiomen, upon which now stand the villages of Collegeville and Evansburg. He erected a grist-mill on the Skippack in 1708. He married Ann Richardson, and left seven children, viz.: James, Elizabeth, William, Samuel, Christiana, Ellinor and Ann. He died in March, 1710. He kept the first hotel, where now stands the Perkiomen Bridge Hotel. At his death Samuel Lane became owner of that part of his plantation lying west of the Perkiomen, and William Lane of that to the east of the same stream. Samuel Lane kept the hotel, and was elected assessor of Philadelphia County from 1737 to 1740. His son, Edward Lane, was constable in 1767, and cried sales. He was in Braddock's expedition against Fort Duquesne, in 1755. At his death, in 1798, he left seven children,—Mary Kendel, Abigail Couch, Jane Davis, Ann Church, Eleanor Evans, Ann Bean and William Lane. Many of his descendants are still living in the county of Montgomery, among whom are the Davises, Beans, Evans, Crawfords, Chains and Shannons. Among his distinguished descendants may be mentioned Joseph E. Lane, a candidate for Vice-President of the United States in 1860.

The Lanes were Episcopalians, and were chiefly instrumental in the establishment of St. James' Episcopal Church, Lower Providence.

Joseph Richardson was one of the early settlers of Providence. In 1696 he married Elizabeth Bevan. In 1710 he purchased of his brother-in-law, Abraham Bickley, one thousand acres of land situated on the west side of the Perkiomen, upon the Schuylkill. Here he lived for many years and his children after him. He left eight children,—Samuel, John, Edward, Aubrey, Richard, Ellinor, Barbara and Elizabeth, of whom Samuel, John and Edward were educated at the Pastorius school, in Germantown. His grandson, Captain Joseph Richardson, was a man of fine attainments and wonderful physical strength. Just before the Revolution he was accused of counterfeiting, but escaped arrest. A price was put upon his head. For many years he eluded capture and became the terror of the country as the leader of a

gang of outlaws. He was finally captured, tried and acquitted of the crime charged.

An early settler was John Jacob Schrack, who, with his wife, Eva Rosina, and four children, came from Germany in 1717. He purchased two hundred and fifty acres of land lying in the lower end of the present village of Trappe. He was a man of influence and an elder of the Lutheran congregation of Providence, in which he took a deep interest. He was one of the most active in writing at different times to London and Halle for a preacher. It was in answer to these repeated requests that Muhlenberg was sent. But Schrack did not live to see the pastor he had been instrumental in securing. He died 1742, a few months before the arrival of Muhlenberg. He was buried in the Lutheran Churchyard, his tombstone being the oldest there bearing an inscription. His widow died in 1756. His sons John, and Christian, lived on the homestead for many years, keeping a public-house called "The Trap." Many of the descendants of John Jacob Schrack still live in the neighborhood.

The Pawling family was a large and influential one. "Pawling's Ford" was named after them. Henry Pawling, of Padsbury, England, purchased of William Penn, in England, one thousand acres in 1681. On his arrival in Pennsylvania he located his land in Providence. One tract of five hundred acres lay opposite Valley Forge, on which he resided. His son Henry owned at the same time twelve hundred acres in Perkiomen township. The latter was captain of a company of Associates in 1747, and a member of the Assembly in 1754. By the act establishing the county in 1784, Henry Pawling, Jr., was appointed one of the commissioners to lay out the county-seat. He was appointed associate judge in 1789. Isaac Pawling was a warden of St. James' Church, Evansburg, and Levi and Lewis Pawling were the first vestrymen of the Episcopal Church of Norristown, and Levi Pawling was Congressman from the district for one term (1817-19), and for a time was president of the Montgomery National Bank, of Norristown.

Frederick Ludwig Marsteller arrived from Darmstadt, Germany, in 1729, and settled on the banks of the Skippack Creek, in New Providence township. Here he bought land of David Williams and Richard Jones. He was an officer of the Providence Lutheran Church, and was first to welcome Pastor Muhlenberg to his new charge. He was active in the building of the Lutheran Church, and is named, over its doorway, as one of its founders. He died in 1753, on the 14th of October. His remains lie near the old church he loved so well.

Patrick Gordon settled in Providence, along the Schuylkill, at Mont Clare. He was a man of mark, and from June 22, 1726, to August 4, 1736, filled the position of Deputy-Governor of the province with credit to himself and honor to the county.

Captain John Diemer settled along the Skippack.

He was a celebrated physician, and in 1746 was elected captain of a company of German Associates, raised in the neighborhood for protection against the French and Indians.

Thomas Lewis, as early as 1752, advertises for sale a farm in Providence, and a grist-mill near the mouth of the Mingo, and says that "loaded canoes can come to the mill-door."

John Bull, in 1716, purchased a farm of four hundred acres in Providence, near the Limerick line, where he lived for many years. His son, Colonel John Bull, was famous in his day as a colonel in the Revolutionary army and in civil life.

Francis Shunk, the grandfather of Governor Francis R. Shunk, came from the Palatinate, in Germany, in 1715, and settled in Providence township.

Hon. Samuel Gross, of Providence, in 1803, was elected to the Assembly, and re-elected in 1805 and 1807. In 1811 he was elected State Senator, and in 1818 to Congress.

James and Adam Hamer were brothers, and settled near the present village of Port Providence in 1713, James purchasing three hundred acres and Adam two hundred and fifty acres. James Hamer, M.D., of the fourth, and James H. Hamer, M.D., of the fifth generation, are still living in the township.

David Todd settled near Mont Clare. His descendants are still living in the township, whilst one lately occupied the position of Secretary of War under President Arthur,—namely, Robert Todd Lincoln.

The following persons served as Justices of the Peace for Providence township from the earliest times to the adoption of the Constitution of 1838, viz.: Frederick A. Muhlenberg, 1784 and January 14, 1789; Anthony Crothers, February 7, 1789 and 1791; Henry Pawling, January 20, 1789 and 1792; John Pugh, January 20, 1789 and April 13, 1807; Benj. Dismant, 1792; Francis Swaine, 1793; Andrew Todd, May 22, 1800; Samuel Gross, January 2, 1802; Isaiah Davis, April 2, 1804; James Harris, January 1, 1807; Abel Thomas, April 13, 1807 and February 29, 1820; James Evans, February 3, 1814; Samuel Bard, April 9, 1816; Peter Waggon seller, December 4, 1816; Benj. Tyson, June 30, 1817; Isaac Linderman, December 16, 1819; John Shearer, December 15, 1820; John S. Missimer, November 15, 1822; Henry Long-acre, July 5, 1825; Robert Evans, April 4, 1827; Jacob Dewees, April 20, 1829; Joseph Henry, November 16, 1829; Jacob Highly, October 3, 1831; Henry Loucks, December 10, 1831; John Todd, July 15, 1833; David Baird, January 5, 1835; John Dismant, April 4, 1835; John Razor, May 28, 1835; Henry De Haven, December 7, 1836.

The settlement of Perkiomen township was begun in 1702 by the Mennonists of Germantown, under the lead of Matthias Van Bebber. This is not the place to trace the interesting history which belongs to the township of Perkiomen. Suffice it to say that this

Mennonist settlement extended into the township of Providence. Jacob Tellner, Leonard Arets and William Streeper, all related to each other by marriage, were three of the leaders in the movement that effected the settlement of Germantown and afterwards spread into Perkiomen. Each of these three selected and purchased a tract of land in Providence township.

Tellner selected his on the Skippack, just east of the Lane tract, while Arets, in 1707, purchased five hundred acres just west of the Lane tract, bordering on Perkiomen, and Streeper secured the next five hundred acres, west of Arets, in 1705, these last two parcels including all the land now embraced in the village of Trappe.

In addition to those mentioned, George Bunson bought three hundred and forty-five acres in 1728; James Steel, two hundred and fifty acres in 1734. Philip Ashenfelter, Jonathan Cox, Benjamin Rees, Thomas Derringer, George Essig, Nicholas Robinson, George Painter, Roger North, Henry Desmond, Colder Royer, Benedict Garber, John Ewalt, John Jacobs and Caspar Rahn were all original purchasers from the Penns.

In 1734 we find John Beidler owning 100 acres of land; Aubrey Richardson, 460; Edward Richardson, 200; James Hamer, 300; Samuel Lane, 500; Adam Hamer, 250; Arnold Hancock, 100; John Diemer, 150; Peter Rambo, 200; Matthias Koplin, 148; Jacob Schrack, 250; Hans Chrisman, 200; Adam Vander-slice, 100; Roger North, 69; Daniel Desmond, 100; Thomas Morgan, 100; Henry Pawling, 500; Harman Indehoffen, 200; Thomas How, 100; Richard Adams, 148; William Adams, 200.

One of the most important factors in the settling of Providence township was the Pennsylvania Land Company. An act of Parliament, passed thirty-third year of George II., No. 112, vesting certain estates in Pennsylvania in a partnership called "The Pennsylvania Land Company in London," William Penn, in 1699, August 11 and 12, conveyed to Thomas Collet and others, who constituted this company, five thousand acres in Gilbert's Manor, adjoining the Schuylkill and Perkiomen, including nearly all the western half of the present township of Lower Providence. Many plantations were sold prior to 1761. On the 2d of April, 1761, the remaining twenty-two plantations in New Providence township, aggregating about four thousand acres, bounded by lands of Henry Pawling, James Morgan, Norriton township and the rivers Schuylkill and Perkiomen, were sold at public vendue. At this sale 151 acres were sold to Samuel Bell, 145 to James Skeen, 113 to Valentine Shambough, 120 to Thomas Grahagen, 161 to Christian Recup, 147 to William Thomas, 117 to Thomas Francis, 172 to Thomas Rossiter, 336 to Arnold Vanfossen, 156 to John Taney, 147 to Benjamin Chesnut, 175 to Nathan Davis, 125 to Barney Pawling, etc.

The people of Providence, from the earliest times until 1777, were compelled to go to Philadelphia to

cast their votes. The elections were then held at the inn opposite the State-House. From 1777 to 1784 they voted at the public-house of Jacob Wentz, in Worcester township; from 1784 to 1785 at the public-house of Hannah Thompson, Norriton, then the seat of county government; from 1785 to 1802 at the court-house, Norristown. From 1802 until the division of the township, in 1810, those living east of the Skippack Creek voted at Norristown, whilst those living to the west of said creek exercised that privilege at the public-house of David Dewees, Trappe.

The township of Providence in 1734 had seventy-four land-owners and tenants, and in 1741 the township contained one hundred and forty-six taxables, a considerable increase in so short a time. In 1785 the township contained twenty slaves and six hotels.

CHAPTER LXXI.

LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP.¹

THE township of Lower Providence, as at present constituted, is bounded on the west by Upper Providence, on the northeast by Perkiomen and Worcester, on the southeast by Norriton, and on the south by the Schuylkill River. Its area embraces nine thousand one hundred and forty-three acres, its greatest length being five and a half miles and greatest width five miles. The only elevation in the township is Methacton Hill, which commences in the eastern portion and extends through Worcester township to the Wissahickon Creek. On Scull's map of 1770 it is called Matateken, and in 1777 Metuchen, and is still often known by the name of Methatchen. That it is an Indian name there is no doubt. It is about six miles long and mostly under cultivation, although the soil is not very fertile. The balance of the township is undulating and fertile, especially along the rivers.

The greater portion of the township is occupied by the red shales and sandstones of the middle secondary formation, among which are found a variety of minerals. Near the Perkiomen, at Oaks, lead-mines have been worked in the past, but never with much profit. These mines were opened before 1800, and worked by Mr. Wetherill in 1818. Through working these lead-mines, copper was discovered. In January, 1848, the Perkiomen Mining Association was organized, which purchased a considerable quantity of land between Shannonville and Oaks for the purpose of digging copper. The land cost about ten thousand dollars, and a great quantity of valuable machinery was erected. The shaft here sunk has a perpendicular depth of five hundred and eighty-five feet, with side-drills of fourteen hundred and one feet, making the entire length of work in the mine over one-third

of a mile. A great many thousand tons of copper-ore have been taken out for market. The mines are now abandoned, and the valuable machinery going to ruin.

The elections in Lower Providence from its organization, in 1805, to date were held at the following places: From 1805 to 1841 those living east of the Skippack were still compelled to go to Norristown and vote at the court-house, while those to the east of the Skippack went to Trappe, in Upper Providence. On March 5, 1841, the township of Lower Providence was made a separate election district, and the act provides for holding the "general elections at the Shamo's school-house." This should read Shambo or Shambough's school-house, now known as the Hollow school-house. Here the elections were held until 1849, when, by act of April 5th, the place was changed to the public-house of Christian Detwiler. This was the present Eagleville Hotel. To this day all the elections of this township are held at this hotel.

Since the organization of the township the following have served as justices of the peace: 1840, 1845, 1850 and 1855, Isaac S. Christman; 1840, Jacob Highly (died); 1840 and 1853, Allen Corson (appointed); 1852, Henry Loucks; 1859 and 1864, John Getty; 1860, George D. Fronefield; 1863 and 1868, William M. De Haven; 1869, 1874 and 1885, D. M. Casselberry; 1872, 1877 and 1882, Aaron Weikel; 1879, Benjamin F. Whitby; 1884, Laurence E. Corson.

The following have served as constables, viz.: 1807, Andrew Jack; 1808-9, John Readheffer; 1810, Andrew Campbell; 1811-13, Samuel Kugler; 1814, Christ. Rosenberger; 1815, John Young; 1816, George Reinhart; 1817-19, Stephen Rush; 1820-21, William Moore; 1822-24, John Roberts; 1825-26, Arnold Baker; 1827-29, Daniel Morgan; 1830, John Munshower; 1831-36, William Moore; 1837, William Shambough; 1838-42, John Coulston; 1843-45, John Slough; 1846, Jacob Nungesser; 1847-49, John Nungesser; 1850, John Slough; 1851-52, John Getty; 1853-58, Jeremiah Deeds; 1859-63, Abraham Carroll; 1864, Samuel Hiser; 1865-67, John Williams; 1868-69, George Casselberry; 1870-71, Joseph Walters; 1872-85, John C. Johnson.

Lower Providence in 1810 had a population of 904; in 1820, 1146; in 1850, 1961; and in 1880, 1856. It now contains 444 taxables. By the last assessment the real estate in the township is assessed at \$1,195,690, and the personal property at \$104,505.

The public schools are eight in number and are kept open for eight months, at a salary of forty-five dollars per month. A regular graded course of study is established, at the completion of which the pupil is given a common-school diploma. In this regard Lower Providence leads all her sister townships.

There are six mills in the township, three upon the Perkiomen and three upon the Skippack, all of which do a good business. Shannonville and Evansburg each possess a creamery. D. Morgan Cassel-

¹ By F. G. Hobson.

berry is the proprietor of a large steam tannery in Evansburg. In 1882, William H. Blanchford erected a large building for the manufacture of carriages at the intersection of the Ridge and the Germantown turnpike roads. He has built up a large trade in the short time he has been there. There are but two public-houses in the township, one at Shannonville and the other at Eagleville. Seven general stores for the sale of dry-goods, groceries, etc., are also found within its borders.

The villages of Lower Providence are Evansburg, Shannonville, Eagleville and Providence Square, at each of which there exists a post-office.

The largest of these villages is Evansburg. It has been so called from the beginning of the century. The land upon which the village stands was part of the Lane tract, and was called by them "Perkoming" for many years. In 1721 the St. James' Episcopal Church of Perkoming was built. In 1825 the post-office was established here and called "Perkiomen," and Edward Evans was postmaster. This Edward Evans was a son of Owen Evans, born 1769, died in 1812, who was an extensive land-owner, and was engaged in making guns for the United States army at what has lately been known as Pechin's Mill. He was married to Eleanor, daughter of Edward Lane (the younger). In honor of this man the village took its name, Evansburg. In 1827 the post-office was kept by Isaac Casselberry in a shop that then stood on the public school-house lot. In 1829 it was moved to the Ridge turnpike, and William Fronfield was postmaster. In 1832, Edward Evans, who then kept store where Henry G. Schwenks is now his successor, was reappointed postmaster.

In a short time Mr. Evans resigned and Perkiomen post-office was abolished. The people then had to depend on the Trappe office, then kept by Matthias Halderman. When the Trappe office was removed to the upper end of that village a post-office was again established, and Edward Evans, for the third time, appointed postmaster, and the office called "Perkiomen Bridge." Here it remained until 1861, when it was removed to Freeland. At the same time a new office was established in the village, with William B. Shupe as postmaster. As the name Evansburg was already utilized as the name of a post-office in Crawford County, Pa., this office was named "Lower Providence." The office still retains this name, and has as its postmaster Samuel D. Shupe, the son of the first official. In 1832 Evansburg contained nineteen houses; in 1858, an inn, two stores, church, two mechanic shops and twenty-four houses. At present it contains two churches, two stores, an extensive steam tannery, operated by D. Morgan Casselberry, several mechanic shops and about thirty-five houses.

This village was at one time known by the nickname of "Hustletown," which name clung to the village for many years. The origin of that name,

tradition says was in this wise: Two young bloods, none the better for frequent libations, as they journeyed, at every village gave cheers for the name of the village. As they passed through Evansburg, they looked in vain for some clew to the name of the village. A short distance from the road they saw two persons "hustling," a method of "raffling," when one proposed "Three cheers for Hustletown!" Hence the name. While this is the commonly received version as to how this name was applied, the author accidentally came across another that to his mind seems more probable. In a deed of Edward Lane to Dietrick Welker for land in the present village of Evansburg, made May 31, 1777, the property is described as adjoining lands of Hussel Town, thus showing conclusively that at that time a man of that name lived there. It is certainly a remarkable coincidence and seems very probably to have been the origin of the name of the town.

Shannonville was first so called about 1823, when the first post-office was established here. This village derives its name from the Shannons, a large, influential and widely-known family of colonial days. Robert Shannon was a native of Norriton in 1734, and was one of the commissioners named by the act of 1784, establishing the county of Montgomery, to purchase ground, erect the court-house, etc., for the new county. James Shannon was one of the wardens of St. James' Episcopal Church, Evansburg, in 1721. Both of these persons are buried in the Episcopal Cemetery, Evansburg. John Shannon, Sr., who was one of the largest land-owners of the township, and owned nearly, if not all, the land upon which the present village stands, was a man of more than ordinary attainments, and it was in honor of his sterling worth that the village that now stands upon his land was named. His grandson, Charles P. Shannon, still resides upon the old homestead. Before the village took its present name the place was known as "Jack's Tavern," besides which there were then but two other houses at that time. In 1858 the village contained twenty-four houses.

This village, like its neighbor, was also dishonored by a nickname, and was known as "Hogtown." In his extensive farming operations, Mr. Shannon raised large herds of swine, from which fact the nickname was applied. While the reputable and intelligent portion of community recognized the post-name it now bears, yet outside the vicinity, either from ignorance or for the humor of it, the bogus name for a time partially obscured the real. In those days the establishment of a post-office was not, as in these, heralded to every part of the State the next morning.

There seems to have been at that day quite a mania in Lower Providence for nicknames; for, in addition to "Hustletown" and "Hogtown," they had other localities of the townships nicknamed with

such choice titles as "Frog Hollow," "Shitepoke Level," "Hardscrabble" and kindred names; but they have gradually died out; the march of civilization has obliterated them, and there is no reason why these vulgar and outlandish misnomers should ever again be revived. Two of Lower Providence's school-houses are to this day named, respectively, the Hollow School-house and the Level School-house, which is certainly a great improvement over retaining their rather vulgar qualifying description.

In this connection a good story is told by Mr. R. R. Corson, of Norristown, concerning some of his army experience. It seems that Captain Corson had been sent on a foraging expedition by General Francis. Whiles engaged General Patrick met him, and as there seemed to be some dispute in relation to the corn, General Patrick asked him his name and where he came from. "My name is Corson; I came from Pennsylvania," said the captain. "Whereabouts in Pennsylvania?" asked the general. "Hogtown," said Richard, who always wears his humorous side uppermost. Next morning Mr. Corson was summoned before a court-martial for indecorous language to a superior officer. The charges were read and proved, and Mr. Corson was given an opportunity to defend himself. Richard said that he had only told the truth. He was born at a place that was known for miles around as "Hogtown," and further enlightened the court that he was educated at Shitepoke Level. Major-General Hancock, late candidate for President, was present, and substantiated Mr. Corson's statement.

It is needless to say that the captain was acquitted amidst the laughter of the court. Some time since, at an army reunion, held at New York, General Hancock related this incident as one of the most amusing of his army experience.

Eagleville is a large village situate on the Ridge turnpike road, at the top of Skippack Hill, and nearly in the centre of the township. Here are held the township elections. It contains at present a hotel, store, carriage-works and a large number of private residences. Silas Rittenhouse purchased land here, and erected a large building for the manufacture of carriages, after which other buildings were put up. The name of the village is taken from an incident that happened about the time the citizens were searching for a name. A large eagle was shot in the vicinity and nailed to one of the buildings. From this incident the village received its name.

About 1855, Thomas Miller erected a large shop for the manufacture of all kinds of vehicles on the Germantown turnpike road, at the twenty-second mile-stone from Philadelphia. A village sprung up around this small beginning, which now contains a store,

post-office and several residences. It is known as Providence Square.

About 1865, Dr. William Wetherill erected several buildings at the corner of Egypt road and another public road, about one half-mile south of Shannonville. The village is known as Wetherill's Corner.

The churches of Lower Providence are four in number, viz.: the St. James' Episcopal, the Providence Presbyterian, the Lower Providence Baptist, and the Methodist Episcopal Church; in addition to which a Baptist Chapel has recently been built at Shannonville.

The St. James' Episcopal Church of Perkiomen, that being the chartered name, is located at Evans-



ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

burg. The time of founding this congregation is uncertain, but it was evidently founded by the Lanes, of whom we have spoken among the early settlers of Providence. The best authorities place the date about 1708, founded by the Rev. Evan Evans, a native of Wales, who came to this county in 1699.

In 1721 the first church building was erected, of logs, which stood in the burial-ground opposite the present building. The date-stone of this building, 1721, is still preserved. There are no records preserved earlier than 1730, with the exception that we know that James Shannon and Isaac Pawling were church wardens at the building of the first church, in 1721.

In 1732 the congregation received a bequest from William Lane, which reads as follows:

"I will and bequeath for the use of the minister that shall serve successively at St. James' Church, situate in Providence, forty-two acres of land adjoining thereunto, which land shall be laid out as commodious a settlement as conveniently it may be without causing much damage to the remainder. And the said forty-two acres of land, messuage and improvements, shall be and continue by virtue hereof to and for the use abovesaid. I will and bequeath to the present minister of said place of worship (to wit) Rev. Alexander Howey, £5 lawful money, three months after my decease."

The land here bequeathed constitutes a great part of the lower end of the village of Evansburg, which to this day pays an annual ground-rent toward the support of the minister of the congregation.

On the night of the 6th of May, 1738, the church building was broken into by thieves, who carried with them the pulpit-cloth and cushion of purple-colored plush, with black silk fringe, and some valuable pewter communion service. For the arrest of the miscreants William Moore and Henry Pawling, the church wardens, offered a reward of five pounds.

On June 9, 1760, a resolution was passed allowing any member of St. James' Church to erect a pew in said church.

Very early a parsonage was erected, for on the 12th of November, 1764, it was determined to put the parsonage in proper order and repair.

During the Revolutionary war the church building was used as a hospital, and especially so after the battle of Germantown. Very many of the wounded of that battle died there, and about one hundred and fifty Continental soldiers are buried in the cemetery, with no stone to mark their resting-place.

There is a stone which contains the following brief epitaph: "In memory of Captain Vachel D. Howard, of Maryland Light Dragoons, who departed this life March 15, 1778, aged thirty years, in defense of American Liberty."

Many years after this, when Washington was President, he drove up the turnpike from Philadelphia, and alighted at the cemetery and asked the old sexton to show him the grave of Howard. He stood there with uncovered head, and said, "The grave of a brave man, a brave man; I knew him well." What a tribute from so great and good a leader as Washington! Captain James Bean, who served in the patriot army, is buried in this old church-yard.

The church was incorporated under an act of Assembly passed October 3, 1788.

In 1843 the present church edifice was erected, of stone, upon the opposite side of the turnpike, and the old church, on the east side of the road, was torn down.

It is impossible to give a complete list of the rectors of this church. The first one of whom we have any knowledge was the Rev. Alexander Howey, who preached along about 1734. After him came Rev. William Currie, who preached until the breaking out of the Revolutionary war. This clergyman sympathized so strongly with the British that he was compelled to leave the country and return to England. There is also a tradition that he was treated to a dress of tar and feathers before he took his departure. The following letter from him is pasted in the minute-book of the congregation:

"GENTLEMEN:

"Age and infirmities having rendered me unable to officiate in publick at this time, you are not to expect me at church any more till circumstances are altered, and when it shall please God to a better

"May 20th, 1776.

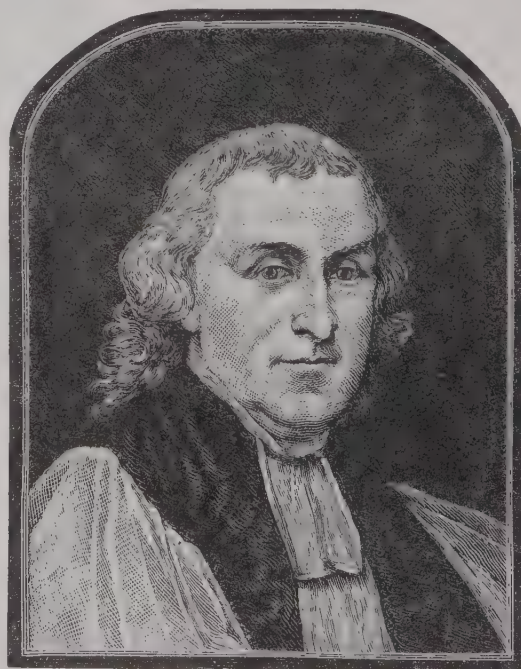
state, and I can again with safety return to ye exercise of my functions. I will confine myself to your church if ye congregation will make ye Glebe House fit for me to live in.

"From your loving Pastor,
"WM. CURRIE."

During and immediately after the Revolutionary war it was impossible to have a clergyman of the Episcopal Church ordained; so this church was without a rector for several years. In 1787, August 14th, at a meeting held at Norristown by two delegates each, from St. James', St. David's, Radnor, and St. Peter's, Great Valley,—it was agreed to apply to Bishop White¹ for an Episcopal minister to officiate at the above churches. In consequence of this invitation, the Rev. Slaton Clay was assigned to that field. He took up his residence at the parsonage of St. James', where he continued to live and served as rector for thirty-four years. He was followed by Rev. John Reynolds, who came in 1832. In 1839, Rev. N. Peck was elected pastor of the church, and in 1843 the Rev. George Mintzer. It was during his charge that the present large and commodious church building was erected on the west side of the Germantown turnpike road. From that time to the present the names of the rectors and the time of their election are as follows: Rev. Robert Paul, August 7, 1857; Rev. M. R. Stockton,

¹ Bishop William White, D. D. born Philadelphia March 26, 1748, died Philadelphia July 17, 1836 in the eighty-ninth year of his age,—“Father of the American church.”

Bishop White frequently officiated at the St. James' Episcopal Church, Perkiomen (Evansburg). Minute book No. 2 of the vestry of the parish



BISHOP WILLIAM WHITE, D. D.

records that Slaytor Clay was confirmed by this distinguished Divine in the year 1787. Mr. Clay subsequently became Rector of the parish. Of a class confirmed by Bishop White in this church 1816 there are two survivors, Mrs. William Bean, and Mrs. Charlotte Weber,—both over ninety years of age and residing in Norristown.

October 25, 1858; Rev. Mr. Allen, March 16, 1863; Rev. Mr. Tays, June 25, 1865; Rev. Mr. Ireland, April 2, 1868; Rev. Peter Russel, April 19, 1869; Rev. Mr. Karcher, July 1, 1873; Rev. E. P. Brown, April 27, 1874; Rev. J. L. Heysinger, April 1, 1876. Rev. Mr. Heysinger resigned the charge November 1, 1884, so that the church is now without a rector.

The cemetery connected with the church contains many ancient tombstones; the oldest is that of a person who died November 24, 1723. Among those buried here the principal family names are Asheton, Burr, Boyce, Bean, Bringhurst, Casselberry, Christman, Custer, Coates, Church, Deeds, Davis, Dill, Dewees, Evans, Fry, Force, Fronfield, Fox, Gray, Gouldy, Hallman, High, Holson, Harwood, Jacobs, Jones, Keel, Lewis, Lane, Markley, Munshower, Newberry, Morton, Pugh, Pawling, Prizer, Prevost, Rhoads, Rambo, Reed, Robeson, Shannon, Skeen, Saylor, St. Clair, Shupe, Tyson, Vanderslice, Wilson Wolmer and Yorke. A handsome granite monument marks the grave of Wright A. Bringhurst.

The Providence Presbyterian Church stands on the west side of the Ridge turnpike road, on a high ridge of land, just below the village of Eagleville. The origin of this church is to be found in the Norriton Church, which still stands in Norriton township, where services were held as early as 1678. The deed for the land is dated 1704, purchased of the ancestors of David Rittenhouse. The first church built in Providence was in 1730, although the time of its organization is not known. The families prominent in its organization were Scotch-Irish, and include the names of Stewart, Armstrong, McFarland, Patterson, Bryan and Porter. The two churches stood separate until 1758 when they united and took the name of Norriton and Lower Providence Presbyterian Church. Among the families at this time are found the names of McCrea, McGlathery, Todd, Hamill, White, Getty, Stinson, etc. The present church edifice was built in 1844, is a large and imposing structure, and was greatly beautified and enlarged in 1875, by building a new front of dressed stone. The following persons have served as pastors of this congregation, viz. Malachi Jones, David Evans, Richard Treat, Samuel Evans, John Rowland, John Campbell, Benjamin Chestnut, David McCalla, William M. Tennent, D.D., Joseph Barr, John Smith, Charles W. Nassau, D.D., William Woolcott, Joshua Moore, Thomas Eustis, R. W. Landis, D.D., Sylvanus Haight and Henry S. Rodenbough.

John Campbell was struck with palsy, in the pulpit as he had just read the psalm,

"Dear in thy sight is thy saints' death.
Thy servant, Lord, am I."

On his tombstone, in the cemetery adjoining the church, is written,

"In yonder sacred House I spent my breath,
Now silent mouldering here I lie in death;
These silent lips shall wake, and yet declare
A dread Amen, to truths they uttered there."

The pastorate of William M. Tennent, D.D., continued for thirty years, while the present incumbent enjoys the distinguished honor of being the oldest pastor in continuous service at his present church in the county. He was called to this field of labor on January 29, 1845, and on January 29, 1885, the fortieth anniversary of his pastorate was very appropriately celebrated by his members and many ministers and friends from the surrounding community.

The Lower Providence Baptist Church was established about the year 1809, and in the summer of that year the first church edifice was erected on the site of the present building. This structure was of stone, twenty-eight feet by thirty-five feet, and its entire cost was \$951.98. The land upon which it stood was donated to the congregation by Benjamin Davis. The building was dedicated and opened for divine service on the 1st day of June, 1810. The formal institution of the church organization took place August 5, 1810, at which time a constitution was adopted, and William Johnson and Daniel Morgan chosen and ordained to the deaconship.

Rev. Daniel James, formerly of the Third Baptist Church of Philadelphia, was ordained as the first pastor of the congregation on December 20, 1812.

As the congregation grew in numbers it was found that their building was too small, and on the 6th of June, 1835, a committee was appointed to devise a remedy, and upon its report a building committee was appointed, consisting of Daniel Morgan, David Allebach and I. Kurtz, to superintend the erection of a new house, forty by fifty feet.

This second house was dedicated, with interesting ceremonies, on the 19th of November, 1836, the dedicatory sermon being preached by Rev. Simeon Seigfried, Sr. This building stood for seven years, until on the evening of February 21, 1843, when it was burned down. The congregation decided to rebuild at once, and appointed John Sisler, Nathan Davis, John Reese, Isaac Johnson, David Allebach and Theodore Morgan a committee for that purpose.

This building was dedicated August 6, 1843, Rev. Samuel Aaron, of Norristown, preaching the opening sermon. In a few years this third building was found too small for the continually increasing membership, whereupon, on August 5, 1876, the congregation decided to erect a larger house of worship. A building committee, consisting of William J. Reese, I. Johnson, H. C. Harley, E. C. Keelor, J. C. Saylor, Jos. Miller and Samuel O. Perry, was appointed, and under their supervision the present edifice of pointed stone-work, seventy-two feet by forty-eight feet, was erected. The dedicatory service took place December 13, 1877, making four church buildings in less than three-fourths of a century. The church has a membership of over two hundred, sustains two Sunday-schools and maintains regular services in a neat chapel, owned by the church and located in the village of Shannonville.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Evansburg is a substantial stone structure, with a seating capacity of about two hundred and fifty. It stands upon the east side of the Perkiomen and Germantown turnpike road, and was erected in the year 1841. It has been used as a house of public worship from that time until the present.

At the lower end of Evansburg is a Mennonist cemetery. Quite a number of old tombstones mark the last resting-place of the Funks, Gutwals, Detwilers, Crolls and others. The most distinguished of the dead here buried is John Funk, who was very well known in the times of the Revolution as the author of "The Mirror of All Mankind," in which the rights of the colonies to resist British oppression were ably advocated. The oldest tombstone bears date 1815.

Among the eminent men of Lower Providence may be mentioned the Lanes, Shannons and Pawlings, also Marsteller and Diemer, already spoken of among the early settlers of Providence. In addition are several deserving of mention. Perhaps the most distinguished citizen that ever lived within the limits of the township was John James Audubon.

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON, the celebrated American ornithologist, was a son of John Audubon and Anne Moynette, his wife, both natives of the commune of Coucron, near the city of Nantes, in France. He had been an officer in the naval service of his country, but in consequence of Louisiana being then a French possession, he removed there, and settled on a plantation near New Orleans, where his son was born the 4th of May, 1780. Under the instruction of his father, who was a man of education, he was early taught a love of natural objects, to which he afterwards attributed his inclinations to those pursuits. While quite young he was sent to Paris to pursue his education. While there he attended the school of natural history and arts, and in drawing took lessons from the celebrated David. He returned in his eighteenth year, when his father resided in Philadelphia, and who had, as early as March 28, 1780, as we learn from the county records, purchased of Augustin Prevost, in Providence township, at the mouth of the Perkiomen Creek, a tract of two hundred and eighty-five acres of land, with a grist and saw-mill. Mr. Audubon, the younger, about the beginning of the present century, resided on this plantation, and in the charming preface to his "Birds of America," gives the following account of it :

"In Pennsylvania, a beautiful State almost central on the line of our Atlantic shores, my father, in his desire of proving my friend through life, gave me what Americans call a beautiful 'plantation,' refreshed during the summer heats by the waters of the Schuylkill River and traversed by a creek named Perkioming. Its fine woodlands, its extensive fields, its hills crowned with evergreens, offered many subjects to agreeable studies, with as little concern about the future as if the world had been made for me. My rambles invariably commenced at break of day; and to return wet with dew and bearing a feathered prize was, and ever will be, the highest enjoyment for which I have been fitted."

It was here where he conceived the plan of his great work, and, in reality, laid its first foundation ; it

was here, too, where he married his wife and his eldest son was born.

On an adjoining farm lived William Bakewell, an Englishman by birth, a gentleman of a highly refined mind and cultivated manners. He had a valuable library and extensive philosophical apparatus. To his house, as may be well supposed from congeniality of taste and dispositions, Mr. Audubon was a frequent visitor, which resulted in an intimacy with Lucy, Mr. Bakewell's eldest daughter by a first wife, and which resulted in a marriage about 1806. Some time in the following year Mr. Audubon and Ferdinand Rozier entered into partnership as merchants, in Philadelphia, where he resided a portion of his time, till the summer of 1809, when he and his partner removed to Louisville, Ky., to continue in the same business. He sold the farm given him by his father to Joseph Williams in the spring of 1810. As a merchant he confesses that he was not successful, and that his love for the fields, the flowers, the forests and their winged inhabitants unfitted him for trade. We find mention made of his visiting his father-in-law, in Lower Providence, in 1810 and 1812, in pursuit of rare and curious birds. Indeed, he several times mentions in his great work the discovery of new species of birds in this county, which had heretofore remained undescribed.

While at Louisville, in March, 1810, he was visited by the celebrated Alexander Wilson. He says he entered his counting-room and asked him to subscribe to his work on American ornithology. By his own statement, Mr. Audubon appears to have received him rather coolly, perhaps, at that time, having formed the idea of becoming his rival. Shortly after this period of his life, Mr. Blake, in his "Biographical Dictionary," thus speaks of Audubon,—

"His life was one of bold and fearless adventure, of romantic incident, and constantly varying fortune. Hardly a region in the United States was left unvisited by him, and the most inaccessible haunts of nature were disturbed by this adventurous and indefatigable ornithologist, to whom a new discovery or a fresh experience was only the incentive to greater ardor and further efforts in his favorite department of science."

In April, 1824, he sought patronage in Philadelphia for the publication of his work, but he appears to have been unsuccessful, for he at least relinquished it. He says,—

"America being my country, and the principal pleasures of my life having been obtained there, I prepared to leave it with deep sorrow, after in vain trying to publish my illustrations in the United States. In Philadelphia, Wilson's principal engraver, amongst others, gave it as his opinion to my friends that my drawings could not be engraved. In New York other difficulties presented themselves, which determined me to carry my collections to Europe."

In August of this year, while fifteen hundred miles from home, in Upper Canada, on one occasion he mentions that his money was stolen from him, when he took to painting portraits, by which he got plenty to carry him home. To meet with better encouragement he at last sailed for England, where he arrived in 1826. He commenced the publication of his work at

Edinburgh in 1827, but afterwards transferred it to London, where the first volume was completed in 1830, containing one hundred plates. William Swainson, Esq., in a review of this work, published in the *Natural History Magazine* for May, 1828, says,—

"The size of the plates exceeds anything of the kind I have ever seen or heard of; they are no less than three feet three inches long by two feet two inches broad. On this vast surface every bird is represented in its full dimensions. Large as is the paper, it is sometimes (as in the male wild turkey) barely sufficient for the purpose. In other cases, it enables the painter to group his figures in the most beautiful and varied attitudes on the trees and plants they frequent. Some are feeding, others darting, pursuing or capturing their prey: all have life and animation. The plants, fruits and flowers which enrich the scene are alone still. These

in the library of the American Philosophical Society, in Philadelphia.

Mr. Audubon in 1839 returned to his native country and established himself with his family on the banks of the Hudson, near the city of New York. The following year he commenced the publication of his "Birds of America," in seven imperial volumes, of which the last was issued in 1844. The plates in this edition, reduced from his larger illustrations, were engraved and colored in a most elegant manner by Mr. Bowen, of Philadelphia, under the direction of the author. His labors as a naturalist did not cease



John Bachman

latter, from their critical accuracy, are as valuable to the botanist as the birds are to the ornithologist."

The applause with which it was received was enthusiastic and universal. The Kings of England and France had placed their names at the head of his subscription-list; he was made a Fellow of the Royal Societies of London and Edinburgh, and a member of the Natural History Society of Paris. With the first volume he obtained one hundred and eighty subscribers at eight hundred dollars each for the work, of which only six were in the United States. The second volume was finished in 1834. This edition contained in all about eight volumes, of which there is a copy

here, for, with the assistance of the Rev. John Bachman, he prepared for the press "The Quadrupeds of America," in three large octavo volumes, illustrated by fine colored drawings, which was published the year of his death by his son, V. G. Audubon. The last years of his life were spent in his country-seat, in a quiet and retired manner, mingling little with the world at large. The celebrated naturalist Cuvier, in speaking of his great work, said it was "the most splendid monument which art has erected in honor of ornithology." His death took place the 27th of January, 1851, at the age of seventy-one years. It is a singular fact that Wilson and Audubon, the two

greatest writers on American birds, both caught their first inspirations on the banks of the Schuylkill. On this stream, too, Dr. Godman, the zoologist, and Say, the entomologist, also pursued their favorite studies.

William Bakewell owned a fine farm in this township, where he died in 1822. He was a wealthy English gentleman of very extensive scientific acquirements. He had a very fine library and many philosophical apparatus. His daughter Lucy became the wife of the ornithologist, Audubon. Bakewell's plantation was formerly in possession of a friend named Vaux, who kept open house during the Revolution when the American army was encamped at Valley Forge. One day he had the honor of having Lord Howe to breakfast and Washington to tea.

Samuel D. Patterson was a native of this township. He became an eminent author, poet and journalist. For several years he edited *Graham's Magazine* with great credit. His widow yet survives him and lives in Evansburg.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

JACOB G. CUSTER.

Mr. Custer is the grandson of Jacob Kishter, who emigrated from Holland at an early date and purchased a tract of land in Worcester township, Montgomery Co. He had four sons and four daughters, among whom Jacob, the father of Jacob G., married Mary Gouldy, of Norriton township, and had children,—Jacob G., David, Samuel G., Mary (Mrs. Jesse Davis), Barbara (Mrs. Abram Detwiler) Rebecca (Mrs. Andrew Heiser), Charlotte (Mrs. Samuel Tyson) and Elizabeth (Mrs. William Getty). Jacob G. was born April 2, 1814, on the homestead in Worcester township, where the days of his boyhood were spent. His delicate health precluded a thorough education, and rendered it desirable to engage in active out-of-door employments. He was, therefore, early made familiar with the labor peculiar to the life of a farmer. He was, on the 23d of February, 1841, married to Miss Rebecca, daughter of Colonel John Getty, of Lower Providence township, their only child being Anne, wife of Benjamin F. Whitby, of Eagleville. Mrs. Custer's death occurred in September, 1867. Six years after his marriage Mr. Custer purchased a farm in Lower Providence township, which he cultivated for many years, dairying being made a specialty. His son-in-law, Mr. Whitby, subsequently managed it for twelve years, after which it was rented, Mr. Custer and his family having meanwhile removed to Eagleville, his present home. In politics the subject of this biographical sketch is a Republican, having formerly been allied with the Whig party. His business pursuits have, however, left no leisure for participation in matters of a political character. He is one of the

managers of the Montgomery Mutual Insurance Company, of Norristown, and has frequently been solicited to exercise the office of guardian. He is a member of the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church, in which he has for thirty years held the office of trustee.

CHAPTER LXXII.

UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP.¹

THE township of Upper Providence, as established in 1805, is bounded on the north by Perkiomen township; on the east by the Perkiomen Creek, separating it from Lower Providence; on the southwest by the Schuylkill River and, on the northwest by Limerick township. Its length is nearly six miles, and breadth three miles, and it contains twelve thousand and ninety-five acres of land. The lands are nearly all productive, the assessment of 1882 showing the total value of real estate in the township to be \$2,420,405; number of taxables, 877. The census of 1880 shows the number of inhabitants to be 3592, which is only surpassed by two townships of the county, to wit: Lower Merion and Pottsgrove.

From the formation of the township to the year 1832 the general elections were held at the public-house of David Dewees Trapp; from 1832 to 1844, at the tavern of Jacob Heebner, and from that date to the present at the "Lamb Tavern," Trappe, excepting since December 2, 1878, the township being divided into two election districts, the electors of the new, or Lower District, have been voting at the Port Providence Band Hall.

The township elections are held at the public-house of Jacob Frederick, known as the "Fountain Inn." They have been held here since 1852 or 1853. Before that time they were held at the house of Catharine Dewees, widow of David Dewees.

The names of the justices of the peace up to the year 1838 are given in Providence township. Since that date the following persons have been elected and have served in that office, with the respective dates of their elections: 1840, 1845 and 1850, John Dismant; 1840, 1845 and 1853, Matthias Haldeman; 1850, Joshua Place; 1855, 1860 and 1865, Samuel Hunsicker; 1857, David Beard; 1862, 1867, 1872 and 1877, Henry W. Kratz; 1869 and 1874, Roger D. Shunk; 1879, David R. Landis; 1881, R. A. Grover; 1882, Abraham D. Fetterolf.

The following constables have served in the township: 1807, George Urmiller; 1808, Jacob Vanderslice; 1809, Peter Waggonseiler; 1810, John Groves; 1811, Jacob Shire; 1812-14; Abraham Trechler; 1815-16, Samuel Smith; 1817-19, Christian Stetler; 1820-21, Isaac Hallman; 1822, Joseph Goodwin; 1823, Philip Koons; 1824, Abraham Showalter; 1825-28, James Miller; 1829-30,

¹ By F. M. Hobson.

Henry Shields; 1831, Jacob Shuler; 1832-41, John Patterson; 1842, Andrew Boyer; 1843-46, Charles Tyson; 1847-54, William Gristock; 1855, Aaron Fretz; 1856-58, Samuel Hendricks; 1859, Henry Fox; 1860-63, Israel Place; 1864, Thomas Garber; 1865, Joseph Walter; 1866-69, Davis A. Raudenbush; 1870, Abner W. Johnson; 1871-75, David Hunsicker; 1876-81, Francis R. Shupe; 1882, Samuel R. Pugh; 1883, William B. Logan, Jr.; 1884, Jonas R. Umstead.

The villages of Upper Providence are Trappe, Freeland, Collegeville, Oaks, Green Tree, Port Providence and Quinceville, or Mont Clare. The post-offices are Collegeville, Oaks, Port Providence, Trappe and Yerkes.

The oldest village, and the one around which clusters the richest historical associations, is the ancient village of Trappe. Many men of considerable importance in State and nation have been born and bred within its limits or in its neighborhood. The first name of this village was Landau. Samuel Seely bought one hundred and fifty acres of land in the village October 19, 1762. This land lies on the west side of the turnpike road, nearly opposite the Lutheran Church. Some time between 1762 and 1765, Mr. Seely divided this land into town-lots, and named the town "Landau." An old draft shows fifty-seven lots thus laid out, the first nineteen fronting on the old Manatawny road, called Front Street. The lots were sixty-six by one hundred and sixty-five feet. The lots were all sold as follows: No. 1, Peter Hicks; 2, Israel Jacob; 3, James Richardson; 4, Thomas Bower; 5, 34 and 35, Thomas Bunn; 6, James Hamer; 7, Richard Lewis; 8, Joseph Ramsey; 9, John Buckwalter; 10, 16, 23 and 29, Joseph Seely; 11, P. Flanagan; 12 and 27, Adam Hallman; 13 and 26, John Schrack; 14, Jacob Peterman; 15, George Essig; 17, Edwin De Haven; 19 and 20, Abraham Brosius; 28, John Carter. This town, which was expected, no doubt, by the founder, to rival the metropolis, existed mostly on paper, and would, no doubt, have been entirely lost had it not been recently rescued and brought to light by Dr. James Hamer, of Collegeville.

About the time Mr. Seely was trying to impress this name upon the village at the upper end another name was being applied to it at the lower end, which was more successful. Before this the name of Trap or Trapp was given to the hotel, which then stood on the present site of Mr. John Longstreth's house. From this hotel the village derived its name Trappe. Concerning the origin of the name Trappe there has been considerable speculation. That the name was of local origin seems the most reasonable. Two theories of the origin of the name are worthy of attention,—the Muhlenberg and the Shunk theories. The Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the venerable and honorable founder of the Lutheran Church, made this entry in his journal kept at the time,—

"Novembér 13, 1780.—Christian Schrack, who was buried yesterday, was a son of John Jacob Schrack, who came to this county in 1717. . . .

They built a cabin and a cave in which they cooked. They kept a small shop in a small way and a tavern with beer and such things. As once an English inhabitant, who had been drinking in the cave, fell asleep, and came home late, and was in consequence scolded by his wife, he excused himself by saying he had been at the Trap. From that time this neighborhood is called Trapp, and is known as such in all America."

That this is the true origin of the name seems the more probable for several reasons,—

1. Muhlenberg lived right in the vicinity from 1745, and no man had better facilities for knowing. He speaks without doubt.

2. In the oldest deeds, advertisements and papers the name of the place is spelled Trap afterwards, for many years, Trapp and Trap. Very few papers of the last centuries are spelled Trappe.

3. In 1760, John Schrack, son of the John Jacob Schrack above spoken of, advertises the hotel in Sower's newspaper, and calls it "Trapp" Hotel.

4. On Howell's map, 1792, it is called "Trapp."

5. The post-office, when established in 1819, was by the name of Trap.

6. The first hotel licensed by the court of Montgomery County, in 1784, was this same hotel. The record reads "License granted to George Brook, 'The Trap' hotel, Providence township," and was granted for many years under the same name.

Thus the change is gradual, but marked,—T-r-a-p, T-r-a-p-p, T-r-a-p-p-e.

The "Shunk theory," so called from being advocated by Governor Shunk, was to the effect that at this Schrack's tavern there were very high steps leading to the front door. As a poor fellow, the worse for drink, went headlong down the steps, he exclaimed, "Verdamt die Treppel!" and from this event the hotel received its name, "Treppe" being the German word for steps.

This theory seems fatally defective, in that the history of the orthography of the name has changed, contrary to the way it should if the theory were true. It was, however, stoutly maintained by Governor Francis R. Shunk. The author has in his possession a letter from the Governor, giving his views in full and arguing that the name of the village should be spelled T-r-e-p-p-e. The discussion as to the origin of the name of the village, and how the same should be spelled, at length gave rise to a public meeting, which was held in February, 1835. Matthias Halde-man and Francis R. Shunk were the champions for *Treppe* or *Trappe*, while Hon. Wright A. Bringhurst and Hon. Jacob Fry, Jr., championed the *Trap* or *Trapp*. At that meeting the majority determined that the proper name was *Trapp*.

In 1795 Trappe contained twelve houses. In 1832 it contained two taverns, two stores and fifteen houses. In 1858 there were two hotels, three stores, three churches and about forty houses, now increased to upwards of sixty. Washington Hall Collegiate Institute was founded in 1830, and is now in charge of Professor Abel Rambo, for several years county superintendent of public schools.

The post-office was established here about 1819, with John Todd as postmaster. He was succeeded by Matthias Haldeman. Where is now the dwelling-house of Philip Willard stood, before the Revolution, an inn, called the "Duke of Cumberland," which was kept as early as 1758. Father Muhlenberg, during the Revolution, complains that there was then no hotel in the place, while before, when there was not one-half as much travel, the village boasted of three public-houses.

Collegeville, or Freeland, as the same village is indiscriminately called, and Perkiomen Bridge, as it was formerly known, is eight miles north of Norristown, and one of the most beautiful villages of the county. Perkiomen Bridge is the oldest name, dating back to 1799, the time of the completion of the stone bridge across the Perkiomen at that place. The first post-office was established here in 1847. Edward Evans was appointed postmaster, and the office named Perkiomen Bridge. In 1848, Henry A. Hunsicker built a boarding-school for young men. This he called Freeland Seminary of Perkiomen Bridge. Soon the village around the school took its name from its school, and was called Freeland.

In 1861 the post-office of Perkiomen Bridge was removed to the store of Frank M. Hobson, who was appointed postmaster. The following year the name of the post-office was changed to Freeland.

About 1855 an effort was made to have this village called Townsend, in honor of Samuel Townsend, who had removed from Philadelphia, and in the county map published about this time the village is called Townsend; but this name did not last long.

When the Perkiomen Railroad was opened there was a bitter fight over the name of the station. The railroad company finally decided to give a new name to their station, and accordingly called it Collegeville. In 1869 the post-office was removed to the station and the name changed to Collegeville. Since that time a bitter fight for the name of the village has been waged, each person calling the village the name best suiting his fancy.

The village of Port Providence was first known as "Jacobs." In 1820, Thomas Jones was an extensive lumber dealer in West Chester; he bought land here and built a landing to unload lumber coming by the canal. From this fact it was called Lumberville, which name it retained for many years. The people, desiring a post-office, found "Lumberville" already appropriated, and then determined to call the post-office Port Providence, which name soon attached itself also to the village.

Mont Clare, or Quincyville, is situated just opposite the borough of Phoenixville, Chester Co. Its residents are mostly engaged in business or work in the adjoining borough. There is now a station of the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley Railroad established here, called Mont Clare Station.

The opening of the Perkiomen Railroad is responsi-

ble for establishing three new villages in the township, viz.: Oaks, Arcola and Yerkes. The people in the vicinity asked that their station be named Oakland. The railroad company named it simply Oaks, as there was another station in the State of the name suggested. A post-office is now here of the same name. Arcola was first known as "Water-Tank," next as "Doe Run" Station, but lately named Arcola, after the large mills of Messrs. Wetherill & Co. There is a very small village here. "Yerkes" is so called after Mr. Isaac Yerkes, a respectable citizen, and the owner of the land on which the station was established. Quite a village is now growing up around it, with a post-office of the same name recently established.

John Robinson undertook, in 1763, to locate one of the largest towns of Eastern Pennsylvania in the township of Providence. Robinson had made great preparations for the sale of lots, offering three hundred and fifty lots at public sale, on February 10, 1763. Quite a number were sold. The following year another one hundred lots were offered. This town was entirely upon paper. On its site are now a few houses and one store, called Providence Square, situated midway between Collegeville and Phoenixville.

The churches of Upper Providence are the following: Augustus Lutheran, St. Luke's Reformed, Evangelical, Mennonite, Friends', Dunkard, Trinity Christian and Episcopalian.

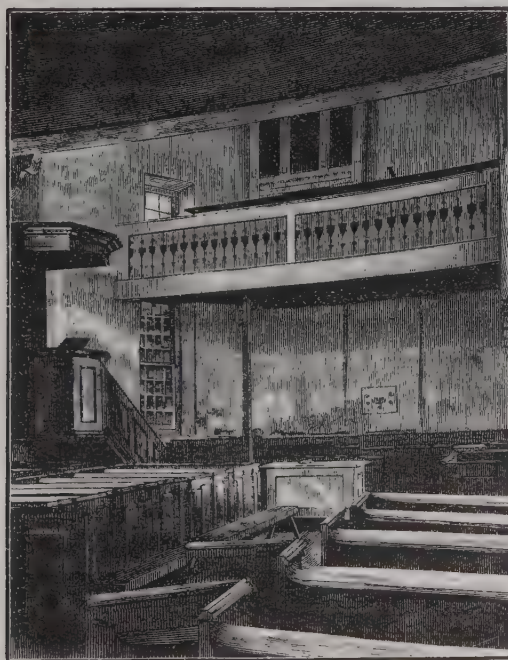
The Augustus Lutheran Church, Trappe, is the most noted in the township. The old church building, erected in 1743, is still standing in a good state of preservation. Ten years before this time the Lutheran congregation of Providence was organized. In 1732, John Christian Schultz became the first pastor, and remained one year, leaving as a successor John Casper Stoever. In 1742 the Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg arrived from Germany, and became the pastor, and built the church in 1743. He has since become widely known as the founder of the Lutheran Church in America, and the Trappe Church as the oldest Lutheran Church in America, now standing. The cornerstone was laid May 2, 1743. The first service was held therein on September 12th, but it was not until October 6, 1745, that the church was dedicated. Three negroes were baptized on that occasion. The General Synod of the colonies met in this church on June 17, 1750. On October 7, 1787, Dr. Muhlenberg died, and his honored ashes now repose immediately in the rear of the old church. The congregation continued to worship in this building until the 6th of November, 1853, when the present large brick building was dedicated. Since that time the old church was used for Sunday-school purposes until quite recently. The present structure was recently entirely remodeled, making it a two-story building. This improvement was made under the pastorate of the present incumbent, Rev. O. P. Smith. Adjoining the church is the graveyard, containing numerous tombstones.

Among the distinguished dead here buried can be mentioned Rev. Dr. Henry M. Muhlenberg, General Peter Muhlenberg, Hon. Frederick A. Muhlenberg, Governor Francis R. Shunk, Hon. Jacob Fry and Joseph



EXTERIOR OF OLD TRAPPE CHURCH.

Royer. The principal family names are Allabaugh, Bean, Boyer, Beck, Buckwalter, Culp, Casselberry, Custer, Cressman, Dehaven, Emerich, Fry, Garber, Goodwin, Gross, Heebner, Hallman, Isett, Kugler,



INTERIOR OF OLD TRAPPE CHURCH.

Longaker, Mausteller, Miller, Moyer, Nieman, Pennypacker, Pawling, Prizer, Rambo, Royer, Rittenhouse, Reiff, Rawn, Spare, Shupe, Stetler, Schrack, Trumbauer, Wald, Walter and Young. The pastors of this church have been as follows: 1732, John Christian Schultz; 1733, John Casper Stoever; 1742,

Henry M. Muhlenberg; 1765, John L. Voigt; 1793, Frederick G. Weinland; 1809, J. P. Hecht; 1814, Henry A. Geissenhainer; 1821, Frederick W. Geissenhainer; 1823, Frederick W. Geissenhainer, Jr.; 1827, Jacob Wampole; 1834, John W. Richards; 1838, Henry S. Miller; 1853, G. A. Wentzel; 1854, A. S. Link; 1859, G. Sill; 1864, John Kohler; 1874, O. P. Smith.

REV. OLIVER PETER SMITH, A.M., son of Frederick and Mary Smith, was born September 4, 1848, at New Tripoli, Lehigh Co., Pa., and is the youngest of eight children. His early instruction was received from his father, who was then teacher of the public school of that place, and at the age of ten years his brother, Theodore, became his tutor. In his fourteenth year his father, not having employment for him at home nor means to send him away to school, gave him the privilege of starting in life for himself. At the age of fifteen he was appointed teacher of one of the public schools of his native township, Lynn, and after the close of the school term he entered the Military and Collegiate Institute at Allentown, Pa., with a view to preparation for college, teaching in winter to meet his expenses. In the fall of 1867 he entered Muhlenberg College as a member of the freshman class, having just recovered from a severe attack of typhoid fever. He graduated in June, 1871, having during his college course embraced every available opportunity to earn money, that the outlay of his course might be met. For one year, while at college, he filled an appointment under the school board of Allentown as instructor of German in the public schools. In the fall of 1871 the subject of this sketch entered the Theological Seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Philadelphia, and finished his three years' theological course in the spring of 1874, teaching during the summer vacations and preparing young men for college. He was ordained as minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Lancaster, Pa., June 3d. Having received a call from the Trappe charge, composed of Augustus congregation (Trappe), St. James' congregation (Limerick) and Jerusalem congregation (Schwenksville), he was installed as pastor of the charge in the Trappe Church the Sunday following his ordination, of which charge he is still pastor. Here has been spent, thus far, the most useful part of his life laboring earnestly and zealously in the pulpit and out of it for the salvation of souls and the glory of Christ, the head of the church. The congregations have doubled in membership through his pastorate, church properties greatly improved and the liberality of the people advanced. The church at the Trappe is one of the finest houses of worship in the county, and Augustus congregation is one of the oldest and most important Lutheran congregations in this country, having had for its first regular pastor H. M. Muhlenberg, D.D., the father of Lutheranism in America. Among the list of the pastors of this congregation are the following names well known in the

church: Hartwig, Van Buskirk, Voigt, Weineland, Geissenhainer, Hecht, Wampole, Richards, Miller, Wenzel, Link, Sill and Kohler, the last-named the predecessor of Rev. Mr. Smith. A Young People's Lyceum has been organized in the Trappe congregation under Mr. Smith's direction, which has been the means of cultivating and stimulating a literary taste and establishing a fine congregational library.

At the meeting of the executive committee of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, in the spring of 1884, Rev. Mr. Smith was appointed to deliver, at the One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Annual Convention of

ing the place in the faculty of professor of the German language.

He was married, June 23, 1874, to Miss Laura Affie Barnes, second daughter of Ezra R. Barnes, Esq., of Bridgeport, Conn. Mrs. Smith died June 30, 1884. By the death of this accomplished and estimable lady, Mr. Smith lost a most faithful and affectionate wife, one who never wearied in the assistance she rendered him in his work. Rev. Mr. Smith was baptized in infancy, and confirmed as a member of the Lutheran Church at the age of fourteen years. Shortly after his confirmation he felt called upon to enter the



W. P. Smith.

the Synod, the educational sermon, which was preached at Reading, and received with great favor.

The subject of this sketch uses the English and German languages with equal ease and fluency, which give him the qualifications for distinguished usefulness in his church. His style in the pulpit is free and earnest, accompanied with great force. When preparing his sermons he draws them up with great care in manuscript form, but never uses a note in the pulpit, which makes him especially popular as a speaker.

Rev. Mr. Smith has also been connected with Washington Hall Collegiate Institute, of Trappe, fill-

ing the place in the faculty of professor of the German language.

The St. Luke's Reformed Church, whose building now stands at the lower end of Trappe, was founded October 18, 1742, by the Rev. Michael Schlatter. For a few years they worshiped in the Augustus Lutheran Church, but shortly thereafter, in 1755, they bought a small tract of land and built thereon a log church. This church stood in the present cemetery lot. Here, in this log house, the congregation continued to worship until the beginning of the present century. The first regular pastor of the church was the Rev. Philip Boehm, of whom we learn elsewhere in this history.

He continued until September 15, 1748. On October 9, 1748, the Rev. John Philip Leydick was installed as pastor. Rev. Mr. Leydick was born in Germany in 1715, and emigrated to this country in 1748, when he took charge of the churches at Providence and Falkner Swamp. He continued to serve here until about 1780. He died January 4, 1784, and is buried in Frederick township. From March 28, 1784, to April 9, 1787, Rev. John Herman Winkhaus served the congregation. Next appears the name of Rev. Frederick William Vandersloot, Sr., who served until about 1813, when he was followed by his son, Frederick William Vandersloot, Jr., from November 11, 1813, to December 29, 1818. Rev. Lebecht Frederick Herman, D.D., served several years, and was followed by his student, Rev. John C. Guldin, D.D., who continued until 1840. It was during the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Guldin that the Reformed congregation left worshipping in the Lutheran Church and built a church upon the site of their first log building. This church edifice was built and dedicated in the year 1835. Following this pastorate was that of the Rev. Jacob William Hangen, who served from April 27, 1841, until the time of his death, February 22, 1843. From the fall of 1843 the Rev. Andrew S. Young served the church, and was, in turn, succeeded by Rev. John R. Kookken, whose pastorate extended from 1844 to 1846. On August 1, 1847, Rev. A. B. Shenkle was installed as pastor, and served for twenty years, until April 1, 1867. He was followed by Rev. H. H. W. Hibshman, D.D., who served from October 15, 1867, to July, 1869. During this short time the congregation built a parsonage, which still stands. On April 1, 1870, Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D.D., was installed as pastor, and served the congregation in connection with his work as president of Ursinus College. In 1874 the old church building, erected in 1835, was torn down, and in its stead the congregation erected the present large church edifice upon the opposite side of the turnpike and by the side of the parsonage. Dr. Bomberger resigned October 1, 1883. The present incumbent, Rev. H. T. Spangler, took charge of the church April 1, 1884, and continues as a successful pastor.

The cemetery is still on the east side of the turnpike, where the churches formerly stood. The oldest tombstone therein is that marking the last resting-place of Lodwick Ewalt, who died March 16, 1760. The family names found therein are Beidler, Buckwalter, Darringer, Dull, Everhart, Hillbourn, Longabough, Reed, Shenkle, Smith, Spear, Shade, Tyson and Wanner.

The Friends' Meeting-House was one of the early houses of worship in the township. It is situate

one and a half miles northeast of Port Providence. On Scull's map, in 1770, it is marked and had been there many years. It was built in 1730, of logs. At that time the portion of the township along the river Schuylkill was settled by Friends, and the best families of that neighborhood worshiped in the old log meeting-house.

The land whereon the building was erected was donated by David Hamer, who came to Providence with his brothers, James and Adam, in 1717. Among those worshipping in this first building may be mentioned Richardson, Taylor, Hopkins, Barnett, Tyson, Ambler, Rogers, Jacobs, Cox, Sayler, Hobson, Cornon and Hamer. The log house was, in 1828, replaced by



PROVIDENCE FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSE.

the present one-story stone meeting-house. It is now very much dilapidated, and very few Friends are now found in its vicinity.

The Providence Mennonite Church is a very old one. When Father Muhlenberg arrived in Trappe, in 1742, he states that there were two houses of worship in Providence,—the Episcopal at Evansburg and one built by the Mennonists. The Mennonists now have a church near Yerkes Station, which was built about 1820. It is a large, plain, stone structure, and no doubt this was preceded by a former building, which was the one referred to by Dr. Muhlenberg. The land on which the present structure is built was given by Abraham Rosenberger. John Hunsicker and Henry Bean were the first preachers, but the latter was soon after deposed on account of some irregularity, and Elias

Landes was chosen in his stead. George Detwiler and John Hunsberger were still later ordained as ministers. Services are now held every two weeks, most of the preaching being in German. The following are names found on the tombstones: Bechtel, Detwiler, Godshall, Hunsicker, Tyson, Buckwalter, Reiner, Landis, Wair, Horning, Rittenhouse, Bean, Alderfer, Rosenberger, Hallman, Wismer, Kratz, Johnson, Kolb, Ashenfelter, Kindig and Kepner.

St. Paul's Memorial Church, Upper Providence, had its inception in a Sunday-school, begun, in about 1828, by Mrs. Rachel Wetherill, widow of the late Samuel Wetherill, of Philadelphia, in the latter years of her life, at her summer residence, and which she continued to teach herself until her death, about 1844.

To meet the wants of this school, and also of a place of public worship in this community, she built an edifice at "Wetherill's Corner," in Lower Providence, on her own land, and being a consistent member of the Protestant Episcopal Church herself, she immediately established the worship of the same in this new building by securing, as she could obtain them, the services of the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church from Philadelphia and the neighboring regions, and maintained them at her own cost as long as she lived.

Her family continued the same, and in the same manner, after her death, until about 1850, when Mr. George Mintzer, then rector of St. James' Church, Perkiomen, at Evansburg, undertook to supply regularly with services this nucleus of a parish by preaching on alternate Sundays.

In 1852, Mrs. Rebecca Gumbes, daughter of Mrs. Rachel Wetherill, had repairs made in this building, fitting up a chancel-rail, communion table and other churchly appliances, and further built a chapel to be used in connection with it upon the lawn of her son's residence, on the opposite side of the creek, in Upper Providence.

This chapel, upon the lawn of the late Mr. Samuel W. Gumbes, is still used (by sufferance) for a Sunday-school house to the present time.

Five years later, 1857, Rev. George Mintzer resigned his charge of St. James' Church, Perkiomen, and accepted a call to this new and yet unorganized parish, and Mrs. Rebecca Gumbes installed him in a house which has ever since been used as a parsonage, and which, in her will, she bequeathed to that perpetual use, with ten thousand dollars, the income of which was to be paid to the resident minister of Union Church. Until this time all the records of the ministrations here had been kept in the register of St. James' Church; but from this date, 1857, a regular record of such acts here has been kept, until they have merged down into, and are bound up with, the registry of St. Paul's Memorial Church, Upper Providence.

Rev. Mr. Mintzer died in 1860, and Rev. James

May, D.D., late professor in the Theological Seminary of Virginia, who had resigned his professorship in that institution at the beginning of the war troubles, and had been elected a professor in the Divinity School of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, was called to fill the post made vacant by the death of Rev. George Mintzer.

He entered on his duties in 1861, and continued to fulfill them until his death, in 1864.

Rev. C. N. Chevrier was called to succeed him, in 1865, and continued minister in charge until he resigned, in 1868, to remove to another parish.

During the incumbency of Rev. C. N. Chevrier, a parish was organized, and a charter was obtained for a church, which was to be built as a "Memorial to Rev. James May, deceased,"—that good man who had died in this pastorate, so widely revered and so deeply beloved by this whole community.

Before, however, this new church building was begun the Rev. Joel Rudderow was called to be resident minister of Union Church and the chapel, in 1869. Mrs. Rebecca Gumbes, who had already deeded a commodious lot immediately alongside of the parsonage to this new corporation, and who had also headed a subscription with five thousand dollars towards building the same, installed him in the parsonage. The vestry of St. Paul's Memorial Church, Upper Providence, also elected him their rector. He is still in charge of the parish.

This good woman, Mrs. Rebecca Gumbes, who, by her large-hearted munificence, had been emphatically the support of this enterprise since her mother's death, and through whose liberality principally the new church was completed, died December, 1869.

In the year 1871 the corner-stone of the new building was laid. It was finished in 1872, and the first service, its consecration, was held by the bishop of the diocese, Right Rev. William Bacon Stevens, D.D., LL.D., on October 20th of that same year, it being the twenty-first Sunday after Trinity, 1872.

The church, which is of the English rural order, is built of the light-gray sandstone from Rhodes' quarry, with Hummelstown trimmings, in rubble; with porch, bell-gable and cross, with interior finished in natural woods (ash and walnut), and open roof, ceiled in pine and oiled, and with stained-glass windows. It is thirty-two by sixty feet, with arch in rear wall to admit of piercing without injury when enlargement shall be needed. It will seat comfortably about two hundred and ten persons.

St. Paul's Memorial Church, Upper Providence, continue the services in (so called) Union Church, as one of their chapels, and they hold their Sunday-school in the chapel upon the lawn of Mrs. Frances S., widow of the late Samuel W. Gumbes.

The Trinity Christian Church, at Freeland, has a fine, large stone church building. This church was founded in 1854. Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, a bishop of the Mennonite Church, on account of his advanced

views on education, communion and other matters, was prevented from preaching in the Mennonite Churches at Skippack, Worcester and Providence, in the year 1851. He and his adherents, therefore, constituted themselves a new body, and proceeded to erect a church building at Freeland, upon land donated by Mr. Hunsicker. The building was finished and consecrated in 1855. It was first called "Christian Meeting," and the congregation was chartered as "The Christian Society of Freeland." There was no regular minister. Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, who preached in German, and Rev. Israel Beidle, who preached in English, assisted by Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker, made themselves responsible for the religious services. Thus matters continued for several years. On May 24, 1861, a council was organized by electing deacons and elders. The first council consisted of: Ministers, Henry A. Hunsicker and Joseph H. Hendricks; Elders, Gideon Fetterolf and Abraham Hendricks; Deacons, Henry D. Swartly and Daniel H. Reiff. At the same time arrangements were made for five ministers to alternate in preaching in the following order: Revs. Israel Beidler, Henry A. Hunsicker, Abraham Hunsicker, Abraham Grater and Joseph H. Hendricks.

It was not until 1862 that a regular pastor was elected, when the Rev. Joseph H. Hendricks was called to fill this position. He had been ordained to the ministry June 23, 1861, but entered upon his duties of pastor April 1, 1862. Since that time he has filled that position acceptably to his people, having, in all these years, missed but one appointment, and that by reason of sickness. In 1862 the title of the congregation was changed to "Trinity Christian Church at Freeland."

The church building was considerably enlarged and somewhat remodeled during the summer of 1874, and was rededicated October 3 and 4, 1874. The building is two stories high; the basement is divided into two rooms: a large one in which the Sunday-school is

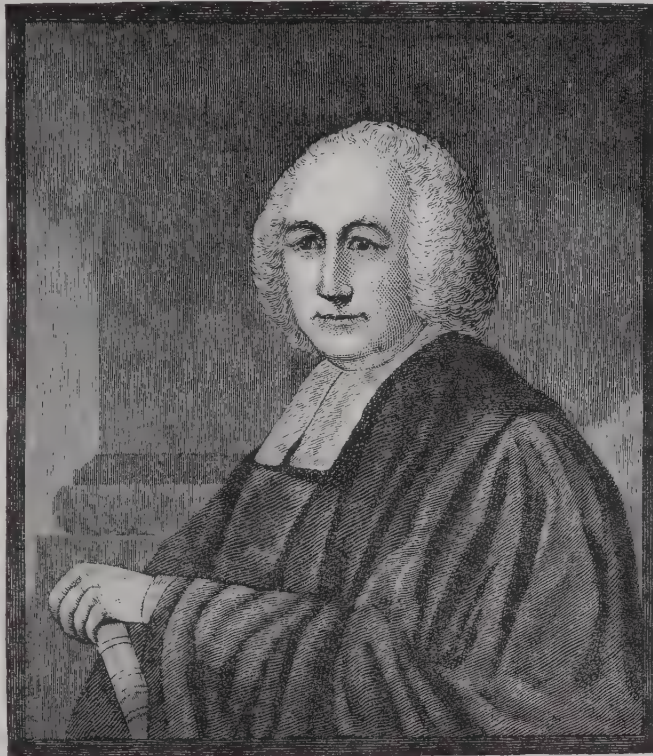
held, the other a small one for prayer-meetings and business meetings. The second floor is the main audience-room. The church is not connected with any other denomination, being entirely independent. There is a church at Skippackville, Perkiomen township, which is a branch of the Freeland Church, both being in the same charge and served by the same pastor. The church is liberal in its creed, yet strictly orthodox, recognizing all Christian Churches as parts of the true church. It has a membership of about three hundred and fifty.

The Dunkard Meeting-House, at Green Tree, was built in 1833. In 1831 a congregation was here organized, with Revs. John H. Umstad and Isaac

Price as ministers, and a church was erected, in 1833, on lands donated by Mr. Umstad. It is a large one story stone building. At present there is a large congregation worshipping there, with the Rev. Mr. Myers as pastor. The cemetery was enlarged in 1858.

On tombstones are found the following names: Bean, Davis, Dettra, Gotwals, Keyser, Miller, Oberholzer, Rodda, Schranger, Schrack, Shunk, Umstad and Walt.

Near the Limerick line and the borough of Royer's Ford is situate the Dismants' burying-ground, being inclosed with a wall

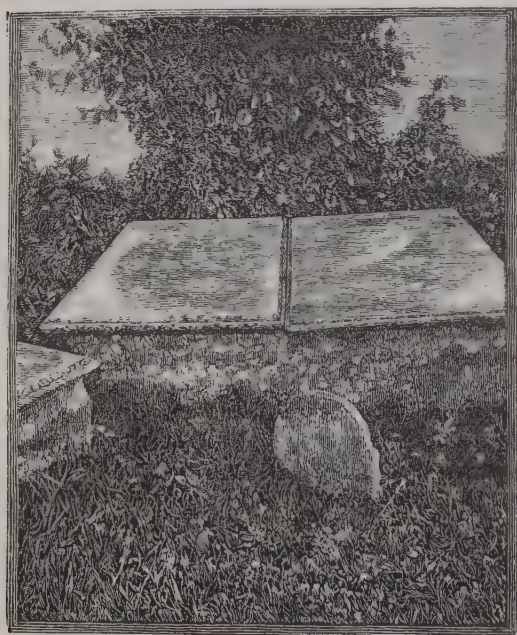


REV. HENRY MELCHIOR MUHLENBERG.

This is nearly one hundred years old, being bequeathed by the Dismants, who were the first settlers in that locality. Several of the Dismants have made bequests to have the ground put in proper shape. There are here buried the Rambos, Dismants, Tysons, Stahls and others. Just back of the Lutheran Church, Trappe, there is a small brick building used as a house of worship by the Evangelical Association. It is of recent founding and has a fair-sized congregation.

PROMINENT PERSONAGES.—A number of the residents of this township have attained distinguished honors in county, State and nation, among whom are the following: Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, born at Eimbeck, Hanover, September 6, 1711. In 1738 he graduated from the University of Göttingen.

He arrived in Philadelphia November 25, 1742, and immediately assumed the pastorate of the three Lutheran congregations at Philadelphia, Providence and New Hanover. On December 26th he first preached at Trappe. He was married to Anna Maria, daughter of the celebrated Indian interpreter, Colonel Conrad Weiser, on April 30, 1745, and shortly after this moved to Providence, where they remained until 1761. Through his exertions the old Trappe Church was built in 1743. In 1776, Muhlenberg moved back to Trappe, and lived there through the exciting times



TOMB OF GENERAL PETER MUHLENBERG.

of the Revolution, an ardent patriot. His work was not confined to the churches named, but he became the overseer of all the Lutheran Churches in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey. On May 27, 1784, the University of Pennsylvania conferred on Father Muhlenberg the title of Doctor of Sacred Theology. October 7, 1787, he went to his reward, and was buried near the old church he had built.

General Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, eldest son of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, was born at Trappe October 1, 1746. He was educated at Halle, Germany, and was ordained a minister in 1768. He was stationed in Virginia in 1776, at the breaking out of the Revolution. It was here he delivered his powerful sermon on the "duties to country," after which he threw off his robe and appeared before his people a girded warrior. A company of volunteers was raised there and then. He served throughout the war, and rose by merit to the rank of brigadier-general. In 1775 he was elected Vice-President of Pennsylvania, and was re-elected. He served in the First, Third and other Congresses with ability. In 1797 he was a mem-

ber of the State Assembly. In 1801 was chosen United States Senator from Pennsylvania, which honor he resigned the following year. On April 22, 1800, he was appointed major-general of Pennsylvania militia for seven years, and from 1803 to 1807 served as collector of the port of Philadelphia. He died October 1, 1807, leaving two sons. Peter was a major in the war of 1812 and Francis a Representative in Congress from Ohio. A few years ago General Muhlenberg's statue was placed in the National Gallery, at Washington, D. C., as Pennsylvania's most distinguished soldier.

Frederick Augustus Conrad Muhlenberg was born at Trappe January 2, 1750. Like his brother, he was educated at Halle and became pastor of a church in New York. In 1784 he was appointed judge of Montgomery County. He was president of the State convention in 1787 that adopted the Federal Constitution. He was the first Speaker of the National House of Representatives, being twice elected to that position, and was twice a candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania. He died in 1802.

Gottlieb Henry Ernst Muhlenberg was born at Trappe November 17, 1753. He accompanied his two elder brothers to Halle when nine years of age, where he remained until he was eighteen. Returning in 1770, he became pastor of the Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, and afterwards of Providence and New Hanover. While settled in the county he devoted all his spare time to botany and mineralogy, and became one of the greatest American botanists. He died in 1815. Many of the descendants of these old Muhlenberg patriots have risen to eminence in the ministry, the law and in politics, but want of space forbids their mention.

Francis R. Shunk was born near Trappe August 7, 1788. His grandfather, of the same name, was mentioned as one of the first settlers of Providence. The parents of Francis were poor, and he was early compelled to support himself, which he did by teaching school and working on the farm. In 1829 he was appointed as clerk of the canal commissioners of Pennsylvania, and in 1838 Secretary of State by Governor Porter. In 1844 he was elected Governor of the commonwealth and re-elected in 1847, but almost immediately resigned on account of ill health. He died July 20, 1848, and was buried in the Lutheran Churchyard, Trappe. A handsome marble shaft was erected to his memory in 1851 by the citizens of the State.

General Francis Swaine was a resident of the township, was sheriff from 1787 to 1790 and was the first president of Montgomery County Bank.

Gottlieb Mittelberger, who lived in the township for several years, deserves notice. He brought with him from Germany the organs in the Lutheran Churches at Philadelphia, New Hanover and Trappe, parts of which last remain to this day. He was liberally educated as a linguist and musician. He arrived in 1750, October 10th, and for four years resided

in Providence, holding the position of organist and schoolmaster in the Lutheran Church, and gave private instructions in music and the German language at the house of Captain John Diemer. On his return to Germany he wrote a very interesting account of



SHUNK MONUMENT.

his sojourn in America, which was published in German in 1756. Parts of the book have been recently translated and published by Mr. Henry S. Dotterer, of Philadelphia.

Wright A. Bringhurst was born and lived at Trappe. He was a man of intelligence, and served in the Legislature of Pennsylvania. He left a large estate to the township of Upper Providence and the boroughs of Norristown and Pottstown, the income of which is intended for the destitute of these districts.

Hon. Jacob Fry, Jr., born at Trappe, 1802, was a member of Congress from this district, 1834-38, and auditor-general of the State, 1857-60.

Hon. Joseph Royer, born near Trappe February, 1784, lived his whole life in Providence, was a member of the Legislature, 1821-22, associate judge of Montgomery County and several times a candidate for Congress. Two of his sons have since represented the county in the State Senate. Horace Royer was elected Senator in 1865 and Lewis Royer in 1878.

Among others worthy of note should be mentioned Hon. Samuel Gross, member of State Legislature, 1803-8, State Senator, 1811-14, of Congress, 1818-22; Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, bishop of the Mennonist Church, and founder of Trinity Christian Church, Freeland; Hon. Abraham Brower, State Senator, 1840-43; Rev. John H. Umstad, a preacher of the Dunkards; William W. Taylor, a noted anti-slavery advocate, and one in the line of the famous "Under-

ground Railroad;" Henry A. Hunsicker, the founder of Freeland Seminary (now Ursinus College); Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D.D., president of Ursinus College; Professor J. Warren Sunderland, LL.D., founder of Pennsylvania Female College; and Professor Abel Rambo, for many years county superintendent, and now principal of Washington Hall Boarding-School.

Upper Providence lays claim to the first temperance organization in the county. On the 7th of June, 1817, a number of the farmers, Quakers and Dunkards, met at the Green Tree school-house, and organized a temperance society by electing Jonas Umstad chairman and James White secretary. Among the resolutions adopted was the following:

"We will not consider it a practice or custom to give liquors to laborers, or make use of any spirituous liquors in haying or harvest, or any other work, or knowingly suffer it to be used by laborers while in our employ; provided further, that such action is not intended to prohibit the medicinal use of it."

Some time after this Jonas Umstad, John Barnett and Samuel Horning certify "that most of them have abstained without any ill, but with manifest good effects." The township has since maintained its temperance proclivities, being the only township in the county that gave a majority "against license" in the local option vote in 1873, and a large majority it was.

The Lutherans at Trappe deserve the honor of founding the first school and building the first school-house. Before the first church was built, in 1743, a log school-house was erected, in which, for several years, Father Muhlenberg himself taught one week in three, until relieved by Mr. Mittleberger, who taught for several years. Francis Murphy, an Irishman of learning, taught in this school-house for very many years, dying in 1855 at the advanced age of eighty-three. It is almost impossible to collect any definite information in regard to the schools that sprang up for a short time and then died out.

About 1827 there was something of a regular system of pay-schools introduced into the township. The teachers were paid two dollars per scholar for a term of three months, or seventy-two days. The lowest branches only were taught. Upper Providence accepted the Common-School Act about 1844, paying at that time a salary of seventy dollars for a term of thirteen weeks. The villages of Trappe, Freeland and Collegeville were erected into an independent common-school district by the court of Montgomery County on the 23d day of February, 1880. It is called "The Trappe Independent District." It contains two school-houses and four schools. The length of term is seven months, and salary is forty dollars per month. In the township there are eleven school-houses and twelve schools. The term is eight months, and salary paid per month is forty-five dollars.

In addition to its public schools the township boasts of two regularly chartered colleges—viz., Pennsylvania Female College and Ursinus College, now open

to both sexes, and one academy, Washington Hall Boarding-School. These are treated of in full under the chapter of Colleges. To speak of them here would be repetition. About 1834 a private academy was located at Port Providence.

In February, 1809, a public meeting was called to meet at the school-house, near Joseph Cox's, for the purpose of establishing a public library. Nothing can now be ascertained in regard to its success.

The county almshouse is situate in Upper Providence, but as this is treated of in another place in this history, it is unnecessary to treat it more fully here.

Francis. In 1791 it again descended to the next generation, and Moses Hobson lived there until 1831, when his son, Francis Hobson, came into possession. This Francis, who was the father of the subject of this sketch, was married, in 1829, to Mary Matilda Bringhurst, by whom he had two children,—Frank M and Sarah H., now the wife of Rev. Henry W. Super, D.D., vice-president of Ursinus College.

Mr. Hobson completed a common English education at Washington Hall, Trappe. He taught public school three years at Trappe, and in 1856 moved to Freeland, where he kept a general store, which busi-



Frank M. Hobson

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

FRANK M. HOBSON.

Frank M. Hobson, of Collegeville, Montgomery Co., Pa., was born January 22, 1830, in Limerick township, said county. The farm upon which he was born and spent the first years of his life had been in the Hobson family since 1743, and consisted of two hundred and sixty-eight acres of the finest land in the township. Francis Hobson was the first of the family to settle in Montgomery County, having come from New Garden township, Chester Co. He lived on the farm from 1743 to 1748, when it descended to his son

Francis. In 1791 it again descended to the next generation, and Moses Hobson lived there until 1831, when his son, Francis Hobson, came into possession. This Francis, who was the father of the subject of this sketch, was married, in 1829, to Mary Matilda Bringhurst, by whom he had two children,—Frank M and Sarah H., now the wife of Rev. Henry W. Super, D.D., vice-president of Ursinus College.

Mr. Hobson completed a common English education at Washington Hall, Trappe. He taught public school three years at Trappe, and in 1856 moved to Freeland, where he kept a general store, which business he pursued for twenty-four years, until 1880, since which time he has lived a retired life.

During these years he also engaged in surveying and conveyancing, besides acting in the capacity of administrator or executor in a large number of estates, conspicuous among which is the estate of his uncle, Wright A. Bringhurst.

Mr. Bringhurst left about one hundred and ten thousand dollars to the boroughs of Norristown and Pottstown and the township of Upper Providence for the benefit of the worthy poor of these districts. He was also one of the trustees named in the will, and afterwards reappointed by the Montgomery County

Court, whose duty it is to manage the trust. He has also frequently acted in other fiduciary capacities.

He has also filled the following public offices and trusts: Postmaster at Freeland, seven years; school director, six years; township auditor, three years; an officer in the Trinity Christian Church, twenty-two years; secretary and treasurer of Ursinus College, ten years; director of Iron Bank, of Phoenixville, two years; director in First National Bank, of Norristown, seven years; treasurer of Building and Loan Association, eleven years. He has recently been elected president of the Perkiomen and Reading Turnpike Road Company.

Mr. Hobson has been independent in politics. Starting life a Democrat, he so remained until 1854, when he left that party on account of its striving to force slavery into the free Territories of the nation. Since that time he has been a Republican. During the reconstruction of the Southern States he opposed, in opposition to his party, the granting of the right of suffrage to the negro until he had properly qualified himself by nature and education to exercise this high prerogative. To-day he is of the opinion that the developments of the past twenty years have shown that his position was the correct one.

Mr. Hobson was married, October 8, 1856, to Lizzie Gotwalts, daughter of Jacob and Esther Gotwalts, of Upper Providence township. They have but two children,—Freeland G., now in his twenty-eighth year, and Mary M., several years younger. Freeland G. graduated at Ursinus College in 1876, was admitted to the Montgomery County bar in 1880, and is now engaged in the practice of his profession at Norristown. In 1881 he was married to Ella M., daughter of Rev. Joseph H. Hendricks, by whom he has one child, Frank H.

REV. ABRAHAM HUNSICKER.¹

One of the most eminent and respectable German families in Montgomery County is that whose surname stands at the head of this page. The record of its emigration is that Valentine Hunsicker, a native of Switzerland—a nation which has preserved its freedom and independence a thousand years—came to the United States in 1717, and about 1720 settled in what was then called Van Bebber, since Skippack, now Perkiomen township. He is probably the progenitor of all of the name in Montgomery County. The next generation in the direct line was Henry Hunsicker, whose wife, Esther, was the daughter of John Detwiler. These were the parents of Rev. Abraham Hunsicker, the subject of this biography, who was born July 31, 1793, in East Perkiomen township, Montgomery Co., Pa. His ancestors being followers of Menno Simon, a plain, unworldly sect, most of whom grew up to undervalue liberal education "as of the world," Abraham Hunsicker enjoyed but the

most limited educational advantages. When grown up, he felt the disadvantages of the want of scholastic training, and being of a strong natural endowment, early conceived the idea of reforming his religious brethren in reference to that subject.

On May 30, 1816, he was married to Elizabeth Alderfer, and there were born to them ten children, as follows: Ann, married to John B. Landis; Benjamin A., to Hannah Detwiler; Esther, first married to Abraham Detwiler, and afterwards to Gideon Fetterolf; Henry A., married first to Mary Weinberger, and afterwards to Anne C. Gotwals; Abraham H., married to Rachel Rittenhouse; Elizabeth, wife of Francis R. Hunsicker; Elias A., married to Susan F. Moyer; Mary A., widow of Rev. Jared T. Preston; Catharine A., wife of Rev. Joseph H. Hendricks, pastor of Trinity Church, Freeland; Horace M., who married Eliza Cosgrove. All the children of Abraham and Elizabeth Hunsicker, except Benjamin, the eldest son, who died in 1855, are living. Two sons reside in Philadelphia, two in Montgomery County, a daughter in Bucks County, and the others near the place of their birth.

Abraham Hunsicker was ordained a minister of the Mennonist Church January 1, 1847, and soon after was elected a bishop. About that time a schism occurred in the Mennonite body, and Rev. Mr. Hunsicker was separated from the "old school" or conservative class of the society. In 1851 a second division took place, when Mr. Hunsicker set about organizing anew. He issued a pamphlet entitled "A Statement of Facts and Summary of Views on Morals and Religion, as related with Suspension from the Mennonite Meeting." In this he portrayed the excellence of that Christian charity and toleration which should prevail among religious denominations, as clearly set forth in the teachings and example of Christ. He deplored to the close of his life the undue tenacity evinced by most Christian sects for non-essentials in Christian doctrine, thus keeping them apart, instead of drawing them to co-operate in the great work of saving souls.

Though brought up a Mennonite, under a rigid discipline which forbade marriage with any outside of the meeting, prohibiting members also from going to law to recover property, and regarding a liberal education as not only unnecessary, but dangerous, he was strongly impressed with a sense of duty to labor to modify and correct these traditional views. He believed that whatever ground might have existed in early ages of the church for strict adherence to such rules, the time for a change had come.

About the time of his ordination (1847) as bishop of the Mennonites of the district of Skippack, Providence and Methachen he conceived the idea, in connection with his son, Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker, of founding a boarding-school to furnish his people better means of education. This was accomplished in 1848 by the erection, upon land which belonged to him, of

¹ Augé's "Men of Montgomery County."

the extensive buildings now occupied as Ursinus College. At the head of this school his son, Henry A., who was shortly after ordained a minister, was placed, together with able assistants. The supervisory charge of bishop, which he now held, had been filled for many years previously by his father, Rev. Henry Hunsicker, Sr., who died in 1836, at the advanced age of eighty-five years, after fifty-four years' service as minister. Holding it to be the right and privilege of women, as well as men, to be liberally educated, he proposed, in 1851, in conjunction with Professor J. W. Sunderland, to found Montgomery Female Institute (now Pennsylvania Female College) near by, which was also in due time accomplished.

These proceedings in the cause of education, and other liberal views held by Mr. Hunsicker, led to division in the Mennonite body of the locality, and he proceeded at once to organize Trinity Christian Church of Freeland and to build a new house of worship, he tendering the ground for the purpose. This enterprise was accomplished in 1853. Unlike the society in which he had been raised, he regarded Sunday-schools as a necessary adjunct of the church, and soon had a flourishing school connected with the meeting. In a missionary spirit he planted a Reformed Church and school at Skippackville, which, like the Freeland society, has flourished, and both are ministered to by his son-in-law, Rev. Joseph H. Hendricks. These societies differ from old-school Mennonites not only in the matters before stated, but in holding protracted meetings, with a view of gathering in the unconverted.

Being of a humane and practically benevolent nature, he dispensed freely what he had to give, and labored long and hard to establish, through the church, a systematic poor fund, that should supersede the necessity of beneficial organizations outside of its pale. Notwithstanding his efforts in this direction, he combated the prejudice of his late brethren in the church, who were opposed to secret societies, though he never belonged to any of them himself. He thought the church ought to feel a concern for the material welfare of its members, as it claims to overlook their spiritual well-being. Practical religion, born of love and good-will to all, was pre-eminently his, and that which he labored to establish; hence he was ever impatient of meaningless customs and traditions founded on the letter, but destroying the spirit of the gospel. Accordingly, he was an advocate of free communion among evangelical sects, and set the example in the church to which he ministered. He continued to wear the plain Mennonite garb while he lived, but was not prepossessed in its favor, rather holding attire to be a thing of religious liberty, as he also thought of the form of baptism. He held, however, that the pouring on of water was the significant form of the rite, but would have every one act on his or her conscientious convictions in the matter.

He was of such clear judgment and so untrammelled

in thought that he followed the Divine word as he understood it. He was of a mild and generous nature, and yet uncompromising in what he regarded as vital; so that he may be set down as one of the genuine reformers of our day. In alms-giving he was free to a fault. Although he differed from his old Mennonite brethren in many things, he had the most exuberant charity for those who differed from him in their attachment to forms and dogma.

In person he was tall and stoutly built, weighing over two hundred pounds, with a face expressive of honesty, force and resolution; his forehead was massive, and his temperament sanguine-bilious, indicating power and endurance; his complexion was dark, but ruddy; he enjoyed good health, as a consequence of a good constitution, vivacious spirits and temperate living; he was eminently social, finding enjoyment in the company of young or old alike, and ever giving appropriate advice and counsel to all.

From the time of settlement in Upper Providence, in 1816, he resided on the same farm until 1851. Subsequently he moved on a smaller property purchased from Wm. T. Todd in 1846, in the lower part of the village, where he continued to reside until within three or four years of his death, when he and his aged partner went to live with their daughter, Mrs. Rev. J. T. Preston. Abraham Hunsicker died January 12, 1872, aged seventy-nine years. His widow still (1884) survives at an advanced age.

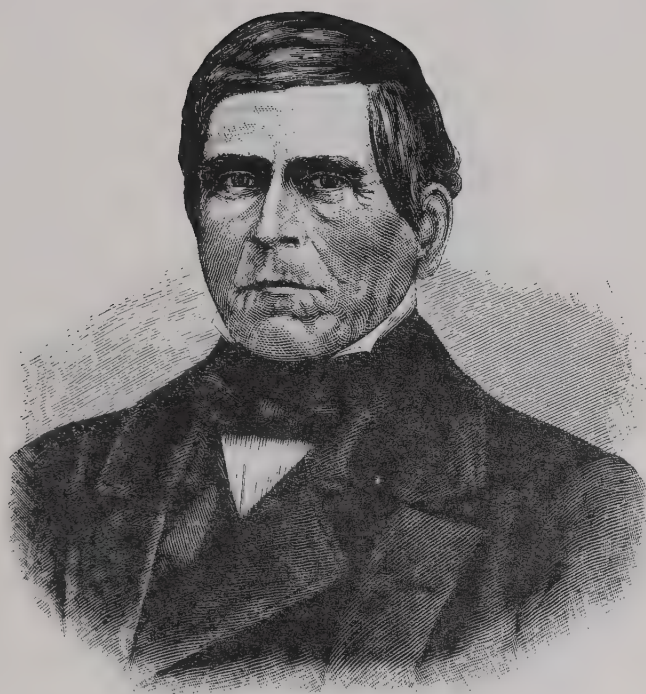
HENRY G. HUNSICKER.

The grandfather of the subject of this biography was Henry Hunsicker, a Mennonite preacher, whose children were John, Jacob, Henry, Garrett, Abram, Elizabeth, Annie, Kate and Sarah. Garrett Hunsicker was married to Catherine Detwiler, whose children are Elizabeth, Henry G., Esther, Christian, Kate, Garrett, Mary and Abram D.

Henry G. Hunsicker was born, February 15, 1812, in East Perkiomen, and enjoyed only such advantages as were to be found at the schools adjacent to his home, after which he engaged in active labor. He was, on the 10th of January, 1835, married to Hannah Stauffer, whose birth occurred September 16, 1815. The children of this marriage are Mary, Catherine, Garrett S., Hannah (married to G. W. Pennepacker), Emanuel, Esther, Lizzie (wife of Horace Ashenfelter), whose children are Hannah, Mary, Amy, Alma and Henry H.

Mr. Hunsicker is identified with the business interests of the county, having served for twenty years as director of the Montgomery National Bank, and for ten years as director of the Montgomery Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Company. In politics he is a Republican, but not active as a politician. In religion he is a Mennonite and member of the Upper Providence Mennonite Society.

Horace Ashenfelter, son-in-law of Mr. Hunsicker, is descended from John Ashenfelter, who was born June



ABRAHAM HUNSICKER.

7, 1771, and married, March 26, 1799, Mary Spare, whose birth occurred January 20, 1775. Their children were Catherine (Mrs. George Reiff), born August 25, 1801; Jonas, born November 9, 1805, married to Margaret Davis; Samuel, whose birth occurred January 8, 1808, married to Rebecca Miller; and John S., born December 5, 1810. The latter was married, November 1, 1846, to Susan Johnson. Their children are Henry J., William J., Abram J., John J., Horace, Frank J. and Katie.

HENRY W. KRATZ.

Mr. Kratz is of German descent, Valentine, his

born November 9, 1809. Their children are Henry W., Catherine (deceased), Sarah (deceased), Andora and Elizabeth (deceased). The eldest, and subject of this biographical sketch, was born in Perkiomen township on the 31st of July, 1834, and at the age of six years removed to Trappe, in Upper Providence, since that date his residence. After a thorough English and partial classical education, received first at the common schools and later at the Washington Hall Collegiate Institute, at Trappe, he engaged in teaching at the latter point and in the immediate vicinity, and for eighteen consecutive years continued his professional labor, one year of this time having been



Henry G Hunsicker

great-great-grandfather, having emigrated from the Fatherland and settled in Pennsylvania. The birth of his son, Valentine, occurred in Montgomery County. Among the children of the latter was a son Isaac, who resided in Perkiomen township, Montgomery Co., where he married Catharine Hunsicker and had children,—Valentine, William, Isaac, Rebecca (Mrs. Wm. Godshall, now deceased), Catherine (Mrs. Jacob Rittenhouse), Mary (Mrs. John Bean), Elizabeth (Mrs. Wm. Young) and Ann (Mrs. Henry Cassel). Valentine was born in Perkiomen township October 10, 1810, and married Mary, daughter of Henry Weikel, of the township of Upper Providence,

spent at the Washington Hall Collegiate Institute. In 1862, Mr. Kratz was elected justice of the peace by his Republican constituents, and held the office continuously for a period of twenty years. In 1866-67 he was appointed transcribing and message clerk of the State Senate, and in the fall of 1881 was elected recorder of deeds for the county of Montgomery, remaining the incumbent of that office until 1885. These offices were filled with ability and integrity, characteristic of the man. Mr. Kratz has been and is in sympathy with every movement having for its purpose the moral, educational and material advancement of the county. He is president of the

board of directors of Ursinus College, at Collegeville, director of the National Bank of Schwenksville, manager and secretary of the Perkiomen Valley Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Company, president of the board of managers of the Black Rock Bridge Company, and manager of the Perkiomen and Reading Turnpike Company. He is a prominent representative of the Masonic fraternity, and member of Warren Lodge, No. 310, of Trappe, and of Hutchinson Commandery, No. 32, of Norristown. He is, in his religious associations, identified with the Reformed Church, and is a member of the St. Luke's Reformed

Samuel, Joseph, Peter, Anne (Mrs. Pennypacker), Catherine (Mrs. Slough), Mary (Mrs. Slough) and Mrs. Rittenhouse. Peter Custer, the father of the subject of this biography, was born on the homestead, and later made Lower Providence township his home, where he remained until his removal to the property now owned by his son in Upper Providence township. He married Rebecca, daughter of Anthony Vander-slice, of the latter township, who resided upon the farm now owned by Mr. Custer. The children of this marriage are Jacob, Samuel, Anthony V., Elizabeth (Mrs. Jacob Garges) and Nancy (Mrs.



Henry M. Kratz

Church of Trappe, in which he has, for nearly a quarter of a century, been chorister.

Mr. Kratz was, on the 26th of May, 1857, married to Miss Myra, daughter of William Bean, of Trappe. Their children are Mary T., Kate B. (Mrs. Horace Royer) and Henry Elmer, now living; and Irvin B. and Jane, deceased.

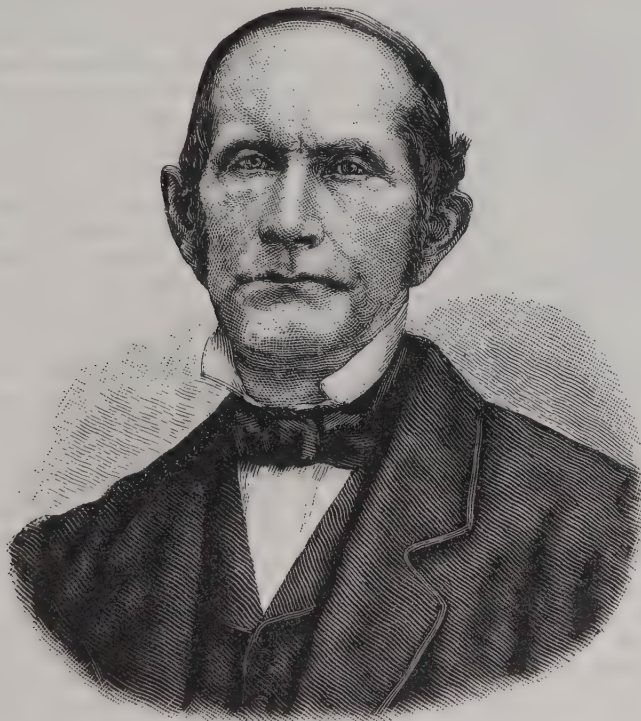
ANTHONY V. CUSTER.

Jacob Kishter (as the name was originally spelled), the grandfather of Anthony V. Custer, emigrated from Holland and settled in Montgomery County, Pa., having purchased a tract of land in Worcester township, of that county. His children were Jacob,

Christian Gross). Anthony V., of this number, was born July 26, 1802, on the maternal homestead, his present residence, where his whole life has been spent. The youth of that day enjoyed but limited advantages of education and were early taught habits of industry and economy. Anthony V. Custer was no exception to this rule, and spent many more days in cultivating his father's land than with his books at school. The lessons of diligence and thrift learned at that time proved of service to him in later years as he fought manfully the battle of life. On the 1st of December, 1829, he married Mary, daughter of Matthias Brumbach, of Lower Providence. Their children are Louisa, deceased; Catherine, deceased

(Mrs. Augustus Yoder); Matthias, whose children are Mary Ida (Mrs. Isaac Garmer), C. Flora, Louisa S., Anthony W., Leora, Werna L., and Olivia M.; Ann (Mrs. Elijah Brunner), whose only daughter is Elizabeth; and Anthony, deceased. Mr. Custer remained with his father, assisting him in his labors until 1832, when he inherited the farm. In 1852 he rented the property for a number of years, after which his son Mathias assumed charge, and now cultivates it. Mr. Custer was formerly a Whig and is now a Republican, but is neither active in politics nor a seeker after office, having been during his busy life entirely absorbed in his own business interests. He is a mem-

central distance from Norristown is about seven miles, greatest length reduced now to five and a half, and breadth two and a half miles, with area of four thousand and thirteen acres. While it is the smallest township in the county, there is probably none in the State so remarkably irregular in form. Its outline on the map justly excites the wonder of a stranger, a portion being a narrow belt, of only one-third of a mile in width and three and one-fourth miles in length, which, until eight years ago, extended to the Schuylkill. By a decree of the court, confirmed November 11, 1876, the extreme end of that narrow strip, containing about one hundred and sixty acres and



A. B. Custer

ber of Augustus Lutheran Church, at Trappe, in which he has been for forty years an exemplary elder.

nearly three-fourths of a mile in length, was annexed to Whitmarsh; hence this township no longer extends to the Schuylkill. This change was made for the residents, with reference to the advantages of nearer school and road facilities.

CHAPTER LXXIII.

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP.¹

SPRINGFIELD may be regarded as one of the southeastern townships of the county, and is bounded on the north by Upper Dublin, west by Cheltenham, south by Philadelphia and west by Whitmarsh. Its

The surface of Springfield is agreeably diversified with hill and dale, and the soil is naturally fertile, containing excellent limestone. Edge Hill is the most considerable elevation, and extends nearly through the centre of the township for the distance of about two miles, in a northeast and southwest course, crossing the Bethlehem turnpike south of Heydricksdale. Where this elevation intersects the Church road a fine prospect is afforded in a western and northern direction. Church Hill begins in the north

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

corner of the township, near the Upper Dublin line, and after a distance of about three-fourths of a mile extends into Whitemarsh. The Wissahickon Creek flows nearly through the centre of Springfield, but only for half a mile, in which distance it propels a grist-mill. The next considerable stream is Sandy Run, near its northern corner, which also propels a mill. Two small streams flow nearly through the centre of the township, and, like Sandy Run, are tributaries of the Wissahickon. These are all steady, constant streams. Nearly every farm possesses a spring-house, with excellent and unfailing water.

Springfield is a thickly-settled township, particularly in the neighborhood of Chestnut Hill and Spring House turnpike. In the vicinity of Chestnut Hill are several fine country-seats and residences, built within the last thirty years, owned chiefly by Philadelphians, and occupied during the summer. The population in 1790 was 446; in 1840, 695; and in 1880, 1535. Owing in part to its proximity to the city, its population has been steadily increasing. In 1882 the number of taxables was 352, the real estate was valued at \$1,522,605 and the aggregate taxable property at \$1,600,830. It is decidedly the wealthiest district in the county, the average per taxable being \$4547, almost double that of the highest rated borough in the county. Licenses were granted in May, 1883, to five hotels, five stores, one maker of agricultural implements and a coal-yard. The public schools are four in number, open ten months, with an average attendance of 103 pupils. Springfield now contains 245 inhabitants to the square mile. In 1850 the return was 114 houses, 124 families and 65 farms.

There are several public improvements in Springfield. The Chestnut Hill and Spring House turnpike, completed in 1805, traverses it nearly two miles. The Germantown and Perkiomen and the Ridge pikes pass only a short distance through the narrow belt. The Wissahickon turnpike begins at Flourtown and runs direct to the Ridge road, a distance of two and a half miles, and for the greater portion of this distance is on the Philadelphia line. It was finished in 1855, and crosses the Wissahickon by a covered frame bridge one hundred and thirty-three feet long. The North Pennsylvania road crosses its entire width, a distance of nearly two miles, in a northwest direction, close to the Upper Dublin line. The stations on it are Edge Hill, Oreland and Sandy Run. The Plymouth Railroad extends from Conshohocken to Oreland, where it forms a junction with the North Pennsylvania road, a distance of two miles, with stations at Flourtown and Oreland. It was extended to the latter place in 1868, and cost, with the additional equipment, about two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Both these railroads are operated by the Reading Railroad Company, who have leased them.

On Holme's map of original surveys this township is marked "Gulielma Maria Penn's Mannor of Spring-

field," and according to the Penn manuscripts contained four thousand and ten acres. At this day it has nearly the same singular outline as given on that map. It is a tradition that Maria Penn requested that when it was laid out a strip should be attached to it leading to the Schuylkill, so that forever afterwards she or her successors should have the privilege, whenever they desired, to reach the river by their own land. We also learn, from the Penn-Physick papers, that the survey was made by Thomas Fairman, who mentioned in a bill of charges that previously he and the proprietary, William Penn, had made a journey "to look at some land," that was "afterwards named Springfield." This must have been done before Penn's return to England, in August, 1684. Maria Penn was the daughter of Sir William Springett, of Darlington, in Sussex, and was married to William Penn when in his twenty-eighth year. Mrs. Penn died in 1694, and, a few years later, he married Hannah Callowhill.

Owing to the whole of Springfield having been early taken up and held by the Penn family, it has been difficult to secure the names of the earliest settlers within its limits. Mention is made that one hundred and sixty acres of land were surveyed in the "Manor of Springfield," in 1690, to Thomas Fitzwater, but whether he resided on said tract is not known. The road from Philadelphia through this township to the lime-kilns at Sandy Run was ordered to be opened in 1703, and the following year extended up to Gwynedd. The earliest settlement under the circumstances could not have been made much before that date. In 1734 there were sixteen land-holders residing in the township: Harman Greathouse, 260 acres; John Greathouse, 100; Samuel Adams, 50; John Harmer, 100; William Nice, 75; Thomas Silance; Job Howel, 75; Thomas Hicks, 100; Christopher Ottinger, 85; George Gantz, 40; Allen Forster, 100; Henry Snyder, 50; Adam Read, 50; Hugh Boyd, 30; Michael Cline, 12; and George Donat, 80 acres. Nearly one-half of those names indicate a German origin, which at this day is decidedly the strongest element in its native population. Thomas Penn, son of the founder, in 1738, owned sixteen hundred acres here, being the balance still unsold of the original tract. Herman Greathouse's tract in 1705 comprised five hundred acres.

It is ascertained from the assessor's list for 1776 that Springfield contained at that time 72 taxables and 37 land-holders. Of the latter, John Nice owned 200 acres; Wm. Hicks, 100; Christopher Rex, 100; Christian Donat, 110; Andrew Redheffer, 160; John Ottinger, 100; Christopher Ottinger, 286; Michael Slatter, minister, 133; Henry Bisbing, 200; and Henry Dewees, 120 acres. Henry Friend had a grist-mill, paper-mill and ninety-three acres. The following occupations are mentioned: Ulrich Wagoner and Felix Detwiler, shoemakers; Jacob Haricher and Jacob Leslie, tailors; David Mack, smith; Jacob

Miller and John Lynn, coopers; John Server and Wm. Boler, weavers; Jacob Neff, tanner; Abraham Hiderich, carpenter; and Christopher Lance, mason. Allen Foster was collector of taxes in 1720, and Herman Greathouse in 1723. In 1767, Henry Scheetz was constable and Jacob Miller supervisor; Henry Dewees assessor, and Jacob Neff collector in 1776, and Bernard Bisbing supervisor in 1785. The supervisor's book of this township commences in 1775, and has been used continuously for this purpose down to the present time.

From the "Genealogical Record of the Schwenkfelders" we learn that Abraham Heydrick, son of Balthasar, married Susanna, daughter of Christopher Yeakle, in 1767. Their children were Sarah, Christopher, Susanna, Abraham and Maria. He died in 1826, aged nearly eighty-four, and his wife in 1834 aged ninety years. Shortly after his marriage he kept a store at the present Wheel-Pump Hotel. Abraham Heydrick, the son mentioned, married Susan, daughter of Jacob Neff, in 1803, and had children,—Mary Ann, Caleb, George N., Edward, Levi, Charles and Susanna. He died in 1866 and was the owner of a farm, hotel and other property at the foot of Chestnut Hill, so long known as Heydrick's Hollow, since changed to Heydricksdale, but better known as the Wheel-Pump. Balthasar Heydrick, born in 1750, had children,—George, Mary, Catharine, Abraham, Isaac, Samuel, Elizabeth, Ann and Susan. He was a captain in the army of the Revolution. He died in 1831, aged eighty-one years. His one-story house is still standing on the east side of the turnpike, in the central part of Flourtown, and the only log building remaining anywhere in this section of country. Dr. Christopher Heydrick was born in Springfield in 1770, and in his youth studied medicine in Philadelphia with the celebrated Benjamin Say, and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1792, and for some time after was a physician at the hospital and also a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences. He removed in 1819 to Mercer County, Pa., where he died in 1856, aged nearly eighty-six years. Several members of this family still hold real estate in the township. Balthasar Heydrick, and his wife, Rosina, the ancestors, arrived from Silesia in 1734. George Heydrick is the present proprietor of the steam saw-mill and extensive machine-works near the Wheel-Pump.

The Yeakle family, now numerous here and the holders of considerable real estate, are the descendants of Christopher Yeakle, who arrived here in September, 1734, with his widowed mother, and settled in Cresheim, below Chestnut Hill, where he successfully followed the occupation of cedar cooper. The log house he built in 1743 and resided in, is still standing, and now owned by Charles Streeper. He married Maria Schultz in 1743, and died after the Revolution at Chestnut Hill, at an advanced age. Abraham Yeakle, his son, was born in 1752, and married Sarah, daughter of Christopher Wagner, in

1776. Their children were Isaac, Samuel, Jacob, Susanna, Maria, Christopher and Sarah. He died in 1841 on his farm in Springfield, now owned by Daniel Yeakle, his grandson, at Heydricksdale. What is known as the Yeakle burying-ground is located about a quarter of a mile from the Philadelphia line, immediately on the north side of Chestnut Hill. It was purchased in 1802 by Christopher Yeakle and his two sons, Abraham and Christopher, and his son-in-law, Abraham Heydrick, for one hundred dollars. It contains about one-eighth of an acre and has been recently inclosed with a new stone



RESIDENCE OF CHRISTOPHER YEAKLE, BUILT 1743.

wall. It originally belonged to the Mack family, of Germantown, and was used as a place of interment some time before 1753. Here are buried members of the Mack, Yeakle, Heydrick, Schultz, Dowers, Oberholtzer, Krieble and Shuman families of the surrounding section. Tradition states that several soldiers who had died from wounds received at Germantown and from the attack made on the Americans under General Irvine, near by, were also consigned to burial here.

Christopher Ottinger, mentioned in the list of 1734 as holding in this township eighty-five acres of land, can be named among its early settlers, originally purchased by him from Herman Greathouse, in 1706. He resided in the lower end of Flourtown, in a substantial two story stone house still standing on the east side of the turnpike, and now owned by Samuel Raney. A stone on the centre of its front bears the inscription "C. O. M. O., 1743," meaning Christopher and Mary Ottinger. On the list of 1776 we find the names of Christopher, John and William Ottinger, evidently of the same family. The name still exists here, borne by persons who hold real estate in the vicinity of the Wheel-Pump.

Flourtown is the largest village in Springfield, situated on the Spring House turnpike, or better known as the Bethlehem road, twelve miles from Philadelphia. The Plymouth Railroad has a station

here, and a turnpike leads to the Ridge road. It contains about sixty houses, four hotels, three stores, a large Odd-Fellows' Hall, built in 1878, two stories high, containing a room for lectures and concerts, and also a Presbyterian Church. This village is an old settlement, and tradition states that the early settlers of Salford and Franconia came hither with their grain to mill, from whence originated the name. A post-office was established here before 1810, when Nicholas Kline was postmaster, and previous to 1827 was moved further up, to Whitemarsh, where it remained until about 1875, when it was restored to its former place. We know by the Pennsylvania Archives that it was called Flourtown in 1781, and Scott, in his "Gazetteer" of 1795, mentions it as "a village containing sixteen or seventeen dwellings." Gordon in his "Gazetteer" of 1832, states it to contain twenty houses, five taverns and two stores. The elections of the township previous to 1847 were held in Whitemarsh, and since in this village.

Owing to its distance from the city, before the introduction of railroads the inns of Flourtown became noted stopping-places for travelers, and deserve some mention here. Michael Spiegel kept a licensed house here in 1766; John Kenner, 1767; John Streeper and Philip Miller in 1773; Joseph Campbell, John Kenner, Jacob Neff, Frederick Kehlhofer and Christopher Mason in 1779. Jacob Neff, who was a collector of taxes, in 1776, kept the Wheel-Pump inn, at least at that date; consequently this is an old-established stand. Tradition states that the name was derived from a wheel-pump in use here during the Revolution and for some time thereafter. John Kenner was still in business here in 1785. Ottinger's tavern is mentioned here in 1772, and was on the present Bisbing property, near the railroad. Mason's stand was on the property of the late George Sechler. Nicholas Kline, who was postmaster here in 1810, kept the sign of the "Wagon and Horses" until his death, about 1826. This was a noted stopping place for farmers. He was an extensive owner of real estate in Springfield and Whitemarsh, and rebuilt the mill on the Wissahickon, now owned by Silas Cleaver. He was buried in the ancient Lukens graveyard, of which he was made one of the five trustees in 1786.

The Presbyterian Church is situated on the east side of the turnpike and near the railroad, in Flourtown. It is a two-story stone edifice, fifty by thirty-six feet in dimensions, built in 1857, and the only house of worship in the township. The church and graveyard comprise about three acres of ground. On the tombstones are found the names of Sliver, Lower, Thatcher Gilbert, Lukens, Dungan, Yeakle, Sorber, Bitting, Bunting, Cressman, Katz, Garner, Murphy, Kline, Soladay, Robeson, Freed, Thornton, Graeff, Gordon, Leidig, Layer, Van Winkle, Dewees, Miller, Willis, Watson, Shaffer, White and McNeill. There has recently been no regular pastor of this congregation.

To show the amount of travel which formerly passed through Flourtown, a list is given of the various stages that stopped here in 1820. A line left the Cross Keys tavern, 18 North Fourth Street, Philadelphia, daily at eight A.M. and three P.M.; one started from the Old Rotterdam daily at three P.M.; another from the White Swan, 106 Race Street, daily at the hours of nine, ten and eleven A.M., and at three, five and six P.M. These several lines had their termination here. The Bethlehem stage left for the White Swan, Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, at four A.M. The mail-stage for Bethlehem left Yohe's Hotel, North Fourth Street, on the same days and at the same hours. It will thus be observed that to this place there were at that time nine daily arrivals from the city, besides the two tri-weekly lines for Bethlehem. Allowing the capacity of each coach to be twelve, this shows an accommodation by these several lines in going and returning daily of two hundred and forty passengers. We may well judge what a revenue was derived from this source by inn-keepers, toll-collectors and the village smith.

The Edge Hill Furnace is located in the extreme east corner of Springfield, adjoining the Cheltenham and Abington line. It was commenced in 1868, but not fully completed until 1872. It went into operation in January of that year, conducted by the Edge Hill Iron Company, who also erected here for the use of the workmen seventeen three-story stone dwelling-houses. The land attached is one hundred and twenty-three acres, abounding in extensive deposits of iron-ore, and having farm buildings upon it. It is now conducted by Joseph E. Thropp and Charles Richardson, and when visited, in September, 1883, had in employ fifty-five hands at the furnace, and about one hundred and fifty engaged in procuring and preparing the several materials requisite to carry it on, as ore, coal, limestone and marble. About one-third of the ore used is procured on the adjoining lands, the rest from elsewhere, which is so combined as to produce the best quality of iron. The average product had formerly been about two hundred and twenty-five tons per week, but the present energetic proprietors have attained to as high as three hundred and forty tons. Iron has been produced here that showed, on analysis ninety-seven per cent. of pure metal. The engine used has a capacity of five hundred horsepower, and two fly-wheels, each of which weigh fifty tons. These works are situated beside the North Pennsylvania Railroad, and at the northern end of Edge Hill village. From its elevated situation the two lofty stacks serve as conspicuous landmarks to the surrounding country.

In the vicinity of Sandy Run Station a considerable quantity of lime is annually produced and sent off by railroad to other sections, especially to Philadelphia, for building purposes. The limestone and iron-ore surface of Springfield takes up about two-thirds of its entire area. As to the latter, immense

quantities have been dug during the last forty years, particularly in the vicinity of Flourtown, Edge Hill village and Five Points. Near the latter place also a considerable quantity of fire-clay has been procured for the interior linings of furnaces, which is well adapted to resist heat.

ASSESSMENT OF SPRINGFIELD, 1776.

Henry Dewees, assessor, and Jacob Neff, collector.

William Nice, 200 acres, 3 horses, 2 cattle, 1 servant; William Ottinger, 2 h., 5 c.; Jacob Nice, 5 a.; Conrad Redheffer, 75 a., 2 h., 3 c.; William Hicks, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Leonard Redlion, 1 h., 1 c.; Christopher Rex, 100 a., 4 h., 2 c.; Christian Donet, 110 a., 6 h., 2 c.; Christian Friend, 93 a., paper-mill, grist-mill, 3 h., 3 c.; Andrew Redheffer, Jr., 160 a., 4 h., 3 c.; Andrew Redheffer, 2 h., 4 c.; Philip Miller, inn-keeper, 30 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Henry Marcer, 1 h., 1 c.; John Ottinger, 100 a., 3 h., 5 c., 75 acres in Upper Dublin; Jacob Haricher, 5 a.; Jost Art, 2 a., 1 c.; Conrad Mason, 1 a., 1 c.; John Fry, 1 c.; John Hammel, 1 c.; John Kenner, inn-keeper, 16 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Ulrich Wagoner, shoemaker, 4 a., 1 c.; Andrew Hiberger, 2 c.; David Mack, smith, 3 a., 1 servant, 1 c.; Abraham Waggenerly, 2 a., 1 c.; Jacob Miller, cooper, 10 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Adam Deem, 1 h., 1 c.; Susanna Koons, widow, 12 a., 2 c.; Balser Hiderich, 10 a., 1 h., 1 c.; John Server, weaver, 4 a., 1 c.; Jacob Leslie, tailor; Barnabas Francis, 4 a.; Christopher Ottinger, 286 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 4 c.; Jacob Neff, inn-keeper, 35 a. and tan-yard, 1 servant, 1 h., 1 c.; George Nice, 1 h., 1 c.; Frederick Kethooper, 1 c.; George Fulkemer, 1 c.; Jacob Kerbach, 19 a., 1 c.; Adam Snyder, 70 a., 2 h., 2 c.; William Levering, 30 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Henry Koons, 5 a., 1 c.; Felix Detwiler, shoemaker, 10 a., 2 c.; Adam Shisler, 4 a., 2 c.; Jacob Norker, laborer, 2 h., 3 c.; William Burk, 1 c.; Henry Bisbing, 200 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Andrew Fie, 11 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Rudolph Ebright, 2 h., 3 c.; Philip Peterman, 1 a., 1 c.; Abraham Hiderich, carpenter, 1 h., 2 c.; Michael Slatter, minister, 130 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Christopher Lance, mason; Jacob Fisher, 50 a., 2 c.; William Boler, weaver; Henry Overlander, 20 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Christopher Hisler, laborer, 24 a., 1 h., 2 c.; George Sneering, 15 a., 1 c.; Peter Niswander, 1 h., 2 c.; Jacob Staley, 1 h., 2 c.; John Streep, inn-keeper, 60 a., 2 h., 1 c.; John Linn, cooper, 1 c.; Henry Dewees, 120 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 5 c.; John Thomas Morris, Jacob Hempfer, John Shisler, Baltus Wolf, Jacob Rister, John Hayberger, Adam Snyder, William Dewees, Jr.

The Bethesda Home is situated in Springfield township, on the public road dividing Montgomery County from the northwestern limits of the city of Philadelphia. The premises contain about eight acres of land and are valued in the assessment books of the township at twenty-two thousand dollars, but are not taxed. The locality is healthful, and the region abounds in highly-improved farms and elegant suburban residences. It is near Wyndmoor Station, on the Philadelphia and Chestnut Hill Railroad, and is convenient of access by well-kept public highways in all directions.

The Bethesda Home is one among the comparatively few Christian charities sustained by voluntary offerings, without personal solicitation from those who have undertaken its management, and who have, in a spirit of broad humanity and an unquestioning faith in God, devoted themselves to the relief of the poor and helpless unfortunates found in all crowded communities. The citizens of the commonwealth point with a sense of pride to the splendid public charities sustained by appropriations made annually by legislative authority, but perhaps at no point from the Delaware to the Ohio will be found an institution so universal in its efforts to benefit those most in need, or so tender in its offices of mercy and philanthropy, and at no

place have a Christian people been more appreciative and responsive than those living in humble homes and abodes of affluence within the circle of influence of this home.

In the year 1851 a lady of Quaker parentage, but who had somewhat departed from the simplicity and plainness of her ancestors, united herself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and through the earnest endeavors of this woman the work carried on by the Bethesda Home has been accomplished. A few years after her connection with the church, Annie Clements was appointed to take charge of a class connected with a missionary church, on Eleventh Street, in the southern part of Philadelphia.

The subject of founding an institution or home by which these objects could be accomplished was constantly borne in mind by Miss Clements and prayerfully considered by her. The business in which she was engaged was of such a nature that she was unable to give her personal attention to the direction of an institution such as she had in her mind, and she therefore wrote to a friend in Trenton, a devoted Christian lady, who, being free from domestic cares, was consecrating all her time and talents to doing good as she found opportunity. After much prayer and deliberation, this friend consented to Miss Clement's proposition to become a co-laborer in this good work. About this time an acquaintance wished to open a store at the corner of Eleventh and Ellsworth Streets, and let out the upper part of the building. In some respects this house was well adapted for Miss Clement's purposes, and though not able to carry out both objects in view, she felt that here was an opening by which she might accomplish one. The place had some inconveniences. Being a corner house, there was a great deal of front; the yard was small; there was no bath and only one small room on the first floor to be used by the occupants of the house. It was a four-storied building, with three rooms on a floor, well arranged and ventilated, with high ceilings and many windows. Thus, in 1859, the house was taken, trusting in God to send both inmates and support.

At first all the rooms were not appropriated to the institution; some were let out for a time to poor, respectable women; but as the family increased and rooms were vacated they were gradually occupied. Just at this time another Christian friend called on Miss Clement who seemed to be fitted for carrying out a work of faith; and being disengaged, Miss Clement told her of the proposed work, and asked if she was willing to assist the lady previously mentioned, in conducting the house, as her own business would not yet permit her to engage in the work personally. This sister also consented, and on the 3d of November they took up their abode at the home.

During the first year donations were very few. Publicity had not entered into any of their calculations, and the Bethesda Home was not known beyond the

circle of the personal acquaintances of its originators. Much of the expense of the establishment was borne by Miss Clement herself; but there was enough received from other sources to assure those who were laboring that the work was acceptable to God, and that He was pleased to have them go to Him with all their wants, instead of soliciting donations through human agency.

In the early part of May, while on a visit of a few days to a friend at Chestnut Hill, a large and commodious house was offered to Miss Clement for rent. The rent, six hundred dollars a year, seemed very high; but the location was desirable. In a situation celebrated for its salubrity, a garden already planted with vegetables for the ensuing summer, an orchard and several acres of ground attached, rendered it a very suitable place for such a family. In a few days arrangements were completed, and the inmates of Bethesda Home prepared to move on the 1st of June. At that time, Miss Clement, having freed herself from all business engagements, took up her residence at the house.

During the next ten years the good work went on, still supported by voluntary subscriptions. Within this time the home, a peaceful retreat for the aged and a shelter for the destitute and friendless orphans, cared for twenty old women, blessing God for a quiet Christian home in which to end their days. Also three hundred and fifty found here a refuge from poverty and neglect, and were brought under careful Christian training.

In 1872, Mr. Henry J. Williams, of Chestnut Hill, besides much previous kindness, built a large and commodious house for this home, at the location previously described. It is a large, comfortable-looking stone house, with a fine portico in front and a carriage drive to the door. The parlor is a beautiful room, neatly and appropriately furnished. The school-room, on the other side of the hall, is also pleasant, light and cheerful in all its appointments. The whole second floor is so nicely heated by the furnace that the children are not confined to one room, but have the range of bedrooms, hall and play-room, which conduces to their health. The floors are laid in hard wood, and the chambers are all furnished with single iron bedsteads. The third floor is furnished much like the second. Two communicating rooms are here set apart for sick nurseries, so that in contagious diseases the patient can immediately be separated from the rest of the family. The beautiful views of the surrounding landscape, which are visible from the large and airy windows of this lovely home, make the neat lodging-rooms doubly attractive.

At the close of the year 1872 it was found that the donations, including all moneys received for children's board, amounted to \$1789.35 for current expenses, besides which the sum of one thousand dollars was given for furnishing the new house.

In 1873 the children were moved into their new

home, and many and liberal were the offerings of friends, which greatly added to the comfort of the little ones. During this year the donations for current expenses and money paid for children's board amounted to \$1888.40, which covered all expenses of clothing, provisions, wages, etc. All bills had been paid monthly during this year, as was the original intention of the founder of the home. But in times of great need she allowed herself to be drawn into debt, and this is not a matter of surprise when it is remembered that she had a family of thirty or forty to supply daily with food and clothes, and many additional expenses.

Through the kindness of friends they were enabled to commence the year 1874 free from all debt.

The year 1875 opened with a balance on hand of \$13.95, and closed with forty-five children in the institution and a balance on hand of \$4.96. The expenditures for that year were \$3241.26, and the receipts resulting from the two fairs held at Mrs. F.'s and Mr. A. C.'s, children's board and other cash receipts amounted to \$3246.22.

The number of children had increased to ninety-one when the year 1879 began. Sixty-eight were received during the year, seven were adopted, one was placed in Girard College, thirteen placed in good homes, two died, thirty-one were taken by their parents, three left with their mothers who were here at service. Fifty-seven being thus disposed of, it left the number one hundred and two at the close of 1879. The receipts this year were \$5189.41, and expenditures \$5169.74, leaving a balance of \$19.67.

From the report of Bethesda Home for the year 1883 it is found that the number of children had increased to one hundred and forty-one.

The receipts of the Home for 1883 were \$9695.22, and expenditures \$9114.75, leaving a balance in hand of \$580.47.

The work is distinctively a "faith" work. The feature which distinguishes it from others of like object is *direct dependence upon God*. It is that practical and entire reliance upon the promises and providence of God in Jesus Christ which casts off and aims to continue free from all earthly dependence, and which while fully recognizing and heartily responding to the human agencies in Divine beneficence, makes its requests known directly and only to God, the great giver of every good and perfect gift, with full assurance that "the Lord will provide."

The property belonging to this Home consists of eight acres of ground and the buildings thereon erected, which, together with the interest of an invested sum of thirty thousand dollars, was bequeathed to trustees for the use of the home by the late Henry J. Williams. His will directs the incorporation of the Home, indites the charter and names the corporators; but directs that

"The Trustees, to whom the lot of ground and appurtenances above mentioned and devised in trust to procure an act of incorporation, shall



Henry J. Williams

hold the same without applying for any such act so long as the present manager of the 'Home,' Miss A. W. Clement, is able and willing to continue the manager thereof, and they shall permit her to have the full, free and absolute control of the internal affairs of the same so long as she is willing to remain; but upon her death, resignation or departure, then to apply for an act of incorporation, according to the provisions of the foregoing codicil to my will."

Mr. Williams, in his endowment, only perpetuates his customary annual contribution to the Home. Owing to the decrease in the rate of interest and the growth of the work (continually increasing the cost of its maintenance), the endowment is now less than twenty per cent. of the actual cost of carrying on the institution.

HENRY J. WILLIAMS, to whose memory the Bethesda Home of Chestnut Hill is only one of many monuments in this immediate region, and whose character is held in reverent love, not only by the people of this locality, but by those of a far wider circle, because of his many benefactions and the constant exercise of his kindly qualities throughout a long lifetime, was a native of Philadelphia, and was born upon Christmas day, 1791. His descent was through a line of distinguished ancestors, nearly all of whom were possessed of those elements of Christian piety which attained so rich and perfect a fruition in the subject of the present biography. His paternal grandfather was a Puritan, a native of Boston, Mass., a man of wealth, of integrity, of extensive influence, a member of the honored band of patriots who struggled successfully against the tyranny of Great Britain, and the chairman of that memorable assemblage at Faneuil Hall which resolved to prohibit the landing of the cargo of tea sent from the mother-country, which was afterwards thrown into the waters of the harbor. He suffered a penalty for his patriotism, for when the British invested Boston all of his property was either confiscated or destroyed. The wife of this Boston patriot was also of Puritan stock and a relative of Benjamin Franklin. Their son, and the father of our subject, was General J. Williams, a man of most excellent character and the first superintendent of West Point Military Academy. Mr. Williams' mother was the daughter of William Alexander, Esq., of Edinburgh, Scotland, a near relative of Lord Stirling. Thus in his youth Mr. Williams enjoyed the advantages of high social rank. He had naturally fine qualities of mind, and they were developed by a careful military and collegiate education. In due time he chose the profession of law, studied under that eminent jurist, Horace Binney, Esq., began practice under favorable conditions, secured a lucrative practice and attained great distinction in his profession.

Mr. Williams, early in his professional life, was united in marriage with Julia, daughter of the celebrated Dr. Benjamin Rush, of Philadelphia, who, abandoning, in a great measure, the gayeties and pleasures of fashionable society, for which her high position and great personal attractions fitted her, be-

came the efficient helpmeet of her husband in all of his earnest work for the improvement of those around him and the advancement of the Christian religion.

The greatest works of Mr. Williams for the betterment of his fellow-man, and those which most endeared him to the people of this community, were performed during the latter part of his life. Indeed, his riper years were almost entirely devoted to charity and the church. The writer of an appreciative sketch says, "Though in the judgment of others Mr. Williams had been for years an exemplary Christian, yet he did not unite himself to the church until the year 1850, when he was received into full membership in the First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. . . .

"When the Calvary Presbyterian Church was organized Mr. Williams was one of its early members, and continued one of its liberal supporters for several years."

It was in 1857 that Mr. Williams, having accumulated considerable wealth and retired from active professional life, purchased a beautiful country-seat at Chestnut Hill, where he spent the last years of his life. Soon after his removal here he identified himself with the local church of the Presbyterian denomination, to which he transferred his membership from Calvary Church in 1866, being elected ruling elder on August 15. At this time, when in his seventy-sixth year, he seemed to receive a new impetus of spiritual energy, and his activity from then until very shortly before his death suffered little abatement.

The first of his organized and extensive liberalities was the building of an attractive and commodious edifice for a public library, which he fitted and furnished and supplied with several thousand volumes. These were made free to all classes in the community, especially the workingmen. This institution was named the Christian Hall Library. All of the current expenses of this establishment were defrayed by Mr. Williams during his life, and he left a large endowment for its use. Another monument of his liberality is the building occupied by the Orphan Home, known as the Bethesda Home of Chestnut Hill, of which a sketch has been given. This institution was also left a liberal bequest. A second building was erected by Mr. Williams a short time prior to his death.

Private benefactions, after all, engrossed the greater part of Mr. Williams' attention. They were most carefully and yet most generously bestowed, and there is no means of knowing their extent, for he distributed his alms most quietly and unostentatiously. He was actuated by the highest Christian principles, and gave not merely for the pleasure which it afforded him.

Labor for the advancement of the religion which he held sacred was the only form of activity which equalled or exceeded his practical charity. In this he was most zealous and untiring. He organized Bible-classes for youths and adults, and even at fourscore years of age was active in conducting them, giving in-

structions in the form of expository lectures. Of these lectures he left notes, some of which, after his death, were deemed of such value that, edited by Dr. R. Owen, they were published,—“Studies on the Epistle to the Hebrews,” Philadelphia, Grant, Faires & Rodgers. The little work gives a fair insight into Mr. Williams’ mind and heart. “The author was not a mere copyist, . . . The whole is pervaded with an humble, devout and reverent spirit.

Mr. Williams’ long life, crowded with good, unselfish, faithful, pious and pure deeds, had a happy close,

the progenitor of the family, prior to the war of the Revolution, and bequeathed to his son Abraham, above mentioned. Here the youth of the subject of this biographical sketch was spent in attendance at the neighboring school and later at schools in Cheltenham and at Chestnut Hill. He returned to the farm and assisted his father in its cultivation until his marriage, which occurred in June, 1845, to Amanda, daughter of Adam Heilig. Her death occurred in August, 1849, and he was a second time married, in 1868, to B. Amanda, daughter of John



Daniel Yeakel

the last scenes being in harmony with his whole career. “He died full of riches, full of honors, full of years.”

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

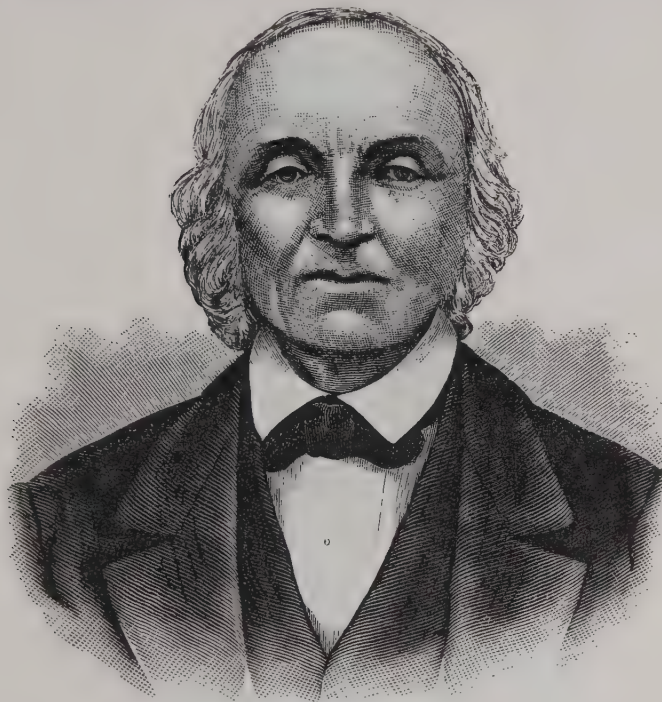
DANIEL YEAKEL.

Daniel Yeakel, the grandson of Abraham Yeakel and his wife, Sarah Wagner, and the son of Isaac and Regina Schultz Yeakel, was born March 27, 1816, on the ancestral land purchased by Christopher Yeakel,

Bush, of Lansdale, Montgomery Co., Pa. The children of the latter union are Emma B. and Daniel Dawson. On the occasion of his first marriage Mr. Yeakel rented the homestead farm for a period of two years. On the death of his father he became possessor by inheritance of a portion of the property and purchased the remaining interest. His pursuits from that time until the present have not varied greatly from the accustomed routine of the agriculturalist. Mr. Yeakel has manifested, during his active life, a deep interest in public matters connected with the township, and by his sympathy and personal

efforts aided greatly in its growth and development. These efforts have not been confined to the township, but have extended to the county. His political affiliations are with the Republican party, though he has never aspired to official position, and filled minor offices in the township only when urgently solicited and from a public-spirited motive. Mr. Yeakel is an active member of the Masonic fraternity and the oldest representative of Hiram Lodge, No. 81, of Chestnut Hill. He is also a member of St. John's Chapter, No. 232, and of St. John's Commandery, No.

standing at Cresheim, Germantown township, Philadelphia Co., which was his dwelling until prior to the Revolution, when he purchased the property on the summit of Chestnut Hill, and died there in 1810, in his ninety-second year, leaving a considerable estate. Christopher Yeakle married, August 9, 1743, Maria, daughter of Balthaser and Susanna Schultz, whose children were Susanna, born 1744; Maria, in 1747; Regina, in 1749; Abraham, in 1752; Anna, in 1755; and Christopher, in 1757. Abraham of this number, married Sarah, daughter of Christo-



Jacob Yeakle

4, both of Philadelphia. His religious associations are with St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, at Lafayette Hill, of which he is a member and with which he has held official relations.

JACOB YEAKLE.

The great progenitor of the Yeakle (Jaekel) family was Christopher, who died in Silesia, Germany. His son, Christopher, when eighteen years of age, came with his widowed mother, Regina, to America, in 1734, and settled in Pennsylvania. He was apprenticed to a cooper, and continued during his lifetime to follow his trade. He built, in 1743, the log house still

standing at Cresheim, Germantown township, Philadelphia Co., which was his dwelling until prior to the Revolution, when he purchased the property on the summit of Chestnut Hill, and died there in 1810, in his ninety-second year, leaving a considerable estate. Christopher Yeakle married, August 9, 1743, Maria, daughter of Balthaser and Susanna Schultz, whose children were Susanna, born 1744; Maria, in 1747; Regina, in 1749; Abraham, in 1752; Anna, in 1755; and Christopher, in 1757. Abraham of this number, married Sarah, daughter of Christo-

pher Wagner, on the 10th of October, 1776, and had children,—Isaac, born in 1777; Samuel, in 1779; Jacob, in 1780; Susannah, in 1782; Maria, in 1784. The death of Abraham Yeakle occurred on the 17th of June, 1841, and that of his wife, Sarah, May 28th, 1833. Their son, Jacob, the subject of this sketch, was born on the 29th of September, 1780, in Springfield township, Montgomery Co., where his whole life was spent. Very few opportunities of instruction were offered to the youth of that early day, a sufficient knowledge of the mother tongue and of arithmetic to transact ordinary business alone being deemed important. Mr Yeakle was employed at the work of

the farm owned by his father until 1806, when he purchased the property, in Springfield township, now owned by his son, William, where he resided until his death, May 29, 1863. He married Gertrude, daughter of George Urffer, on the 1st of November, 1808, and had children,—Susan, born in 1809; Joseph, 1811; Leah, 1814; Charles, in 1817; George, 1820; and William, in 1821. George married Amanda, daughter of Peter Streeper, and has three children. Leah married Thomas L. Bates, and has had seven children. Jacob Yeakle was a successful farmer, devoting his attention principally to dairying and marketing in Philadelphia. He was a Whig in politics,

JOSEPH YEAKLE,

The oldest son of Jacob and Gertrude Yeakle, was born on the 11th of April, 1811, in Springfield township on the homestead, where his life has been spent. The winter months were devoted to school, and the remainder of the year, during boyhood, to labor on the farm of his father, where was found an abundance of work for willing hands to execute. He ultimately rented the farm lying adjacent to the homestead, which belonged to his father, and in 1848 purchased the property. He was, in 1836, married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of John Huston, whose birth occurred April 1, 1813. Their children were Huston, born in



Joseph Yeakle

and although interested in all that pertained to the good of the township of his residence, did not accept office, having always business matters of importance to occupy his attention. He was a man of marked integrity, of whom it might be said with truth that "his word was as good as his bond." His opinion was much respected in questions of weight, his services often being desired in the settlement of estates and in the capacity of executor. In religion he adhered to the Schwenkfelder faith, which was that of his ancestors, and worshiped with the meeting in Towamencin township.

1835; James, in 1837; Emily (Mrs. James Nash) 1839; Elenora (deceased), 1842; Daniel W. (deceased), 1844; Jacob, 1847; Elvie (Mrs. Cleaver Supplee), 1850. Mrs. Yeakle died in 1852, and Mr. Yeakle was a second time married, in 1854, to Miss Mary Huston, whose death occurred in 1877. Their children are John H., born in 1853 (deceased), and Thomas C., whose birth occurred in 1855. Mr. Yeakle continued farming until 1870, when, desiring to be relieved from the hard labor which had been his portion from youth, he retired and made Flourtown, Montgomery Co., his home. He has been a firm adherent of the

Republican party since its organization, and although not an office-seeker, holds the appointment of postmaster in the village. He has been since 1881, associated with his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Daniel W. Yeakle, in the management of a store at Flourtown. In religion he is a supporter of the Presbyterian Church, of the latter place, though not identified as one of its members.

CHARLES YEAKLE,

The second son of Jacob and Gertrude Yeakle, was born July 7, 1817, on the homestead, now owned by his brother, William. Here his youth, passed with

gomery Co., whose only child, Levi, died in February, 1861. Charles Yeakle has devoted his life to the employments of a farmer and the extensive mining of iron-ore. While successful in these branches of industry, he has found neither time nor inclination for other pursuits. He is a Republican in politics, having been formally allied to the Old Line Whig party. Though formerly the incumbent of one or more minor offices, he is not ambitious for political honors. His services have been sought on frequent occasions in the capacity of guardian and trustee, which appointments have been, with rare exceptions, declined. Mr. Yeakle now worships with the Presbyterian Church, though reared in the faith of the Schwenkfelders.



Charles Yeakle

his parents, was varied by the enjoyment of advantages of education, in some slight degree superior to those ordinarily obtained, at Flourtown, Whitmarsh, and at the Hicks school, at Springfield. After a period devoted to labor on the home-farm he, in connection with his brother, William, cultivated the land on shares, from 1843 until 1849, when he removed to his present home, then owned by his father. This he occupied as a tenant until 1863, when it became his by inheritance. Mr. Yeakle was married, on the 16th of March, 1843, to Sarah, daughter of Michael and Barbara Urffer Neuss, of Upper Hanover township, Mont-

WILLIAM YEAKLE,

The youngest son of Jacob and Gertrude Yeakle, was born on the 7th of November, 1821, in Springfield township, where he has since remained, and is now one of its most influential citizens. His educational opportunities were not superior to those of his brothers, being confined to a few months of instruction, chiefly during the winter. He was reared from youth to habits of industry, and at an early age became useful to his father in his farm employments. He later rented the homestead until the death of the latter, when a portion came to him as his patrimony,

the remainder being secured by purchase. On this place he still resides, and is, as formerly, actively engaged in the various avocations pertaining to a farmer's life. Mr. Yeakle was married, on the 27th of December, 1849, to Mary, daughter of Jacob Wentz, whose birth occurred September 24, 1826. Their children are Atwood, born 1850; Gertrude, 1852; Ambrose, 1854; and John, 1857. Mr. Yeakle is a member of the board of directors of the Montgomery National Bank, of Norristown. A Republican in his political views, he is not active in the field of politics, and finds little leisure for pursuits aside from his life as an agriculturalist. Mr. Yeakle is an attendant upon the ser-

the riots, and in four hours were marching with forty-seven men and their big six-pound cannon. They marched direct to the Girard Bank, and from thence to the Arsenal, where now stands John Wanamaker's store. In 1846 the Mexican war broke out, and George Lower, with his brother Henry, went to Philadelphia and joined Captain R. K. Scott's company of Cadwalader Grays, which, when the First Regiment was formed, became H Company, went to Mexico and participated in the taking of the city of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan Del Ulloa, which capitulated on the 29th of March, 1847. The First Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, Company H



William Yeakle

vices of the Lutheran Church, of which Mrs. Yeakle is a member.

GEORGE LOWER.

George Lower was born January 30, 1823, on a twenty-acre farm in Springfield township, Montgomery Co., Pa. His father, Joseph, died at the age of ninety, and his mother, Ann, at seventy-six years of age. At the age of nineteen, with other young men of the neighborhood, George Lower raised a military company, of which he was made one of the lieutenants; they became so perfect in drill that they would go through the manual by the tap of the drum. In 1844 they received orders to go to the city to help suppress

being one of the companies, was commanded by Colonel Francis M. Wynkoop. Mr. Lower participated in all the important engagements of the war, including Cerro Gordo. After peace had been concluded he returned to Philadelphia, where he arrived in July, 1848, and was mustered out and discharged. He then returned to Springfield township, and in the fall of that year was elected county auditor, and in 1854 was elected recorder of deeds, and whilst in office removed from the old buildings to the new offices in the new court-house, and recorded the first deed. After going out of office he went to Flourtown, in Springfield township. In the spring of 1858 he was elected a justice of the peace and has served almost continually since.

ENOCH SHOEMAKER.

Enoch Shoemaker, who for more than a half-century has been a resident of Springfield township, is a descendant of George Shoemaker, who (with one or two others) came from Wales to Pennsylvania on special invitation from William Penn, landing in 1685 at Chester, where he afterwards married Sarah, a daughter of Richard Waylen, who was a preacher of the Society of Friends. Nothing of the subsequent life of George Shoemaker has been ascertained. A son, or grandson, of his was Jacob Shoemaker, who, with his wife, Margaret, were residents of Whitmarsh township, and parents of the following-named

ary 17, 1816. His wife was Hannah Kenderdine, of Horsham. Their children were Agnes, born September 23, 1765; Margaret, born September 8, 1767; Dorothy, born July 25, 1769; Thomas, born August 6, 1771; Rachel, born December 18, 1773; Mary, born July 19, 1775. The daughters all lived unmarried, three of them reaching an age exceeding eighty years. The only son, Thomas, became owner of his father's farm in Whitpain. His wife was Jane, daughter of David Supplee, who lived in Norriton township, on the farm now owned by Andrew F. Hiltner, of Norristown.

The children of Thomas and Jane (Supplee) Shoe-



Enoch Shoemaker

children: Matthias and Jonathan (twins), born 14th of Twelfth Month, 1736; Barbary, born 30th of Sixth Month, 1738; Jonathan (second of the name), born 16th of Twelfth Month, 1739; Isaac, born 16th of Eleventh Month, 1741; Hannah, born 10th of Ninth Month, 1743; Elisabeth, born 30th of Eleventh Month, 1745; Sarah, born 3d of Second Month, 1748; David, born 30th of First Month, 1753.

The first-named of these children, Matthias Shoemaker, was grandfather of Enoch, the immediate subject of this biographical notice. He lived in Whitpain township on a farm which he purchased in 1777, and which is now owned by his grandson, Charles K. Shoemaker. On that farm he died Janu-

maker, were Enoch (the subject of this memoir), born September 25, 1804; Job, born in 1805, and died in his twenty-second year; David, born in 1806 (father of John K. Shoemaker, of Philadelphia); Allen, born in 1808, and now living in Lewisburg, Pa.; Matthias, born February 17, 1810 (now of Philadelphia); Hannah (died in infancy); Jesse (died in Canada); and Charles K., now living on the Shoemaker homestead in Whitpain township.

Enoch, eldest son of Thomas and Jane Shoemaker, was married, March 8, 1832, to Rachel Mitchel, daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Hallowell) Mitchel, whose home was in Springfield township, on the homestead farm, now owned and occupied by Enoch Shoemaker.

Sarah, the wife of Jacob Mitchel, was a descendant of Edward Farmer, the first settler in Whitemarsh. Jacob Mitchell was born in Whitemarsh, of parents who came there from Germany. His father was a leading man in that township and a prominent member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, at Barren Hill. The children of Jacob and Sarah Mitchel were Elizabeth, born in 1791, married James Pierce, of Plymouth township, and died in 1873; Mary, born in 1793, married Andrew Fisher, of Chestnut Hill, and died in 1873; Sarah, born in 1795, married Frederick Klair, of Gwynedd, and died in 1866; Abigail, born in 1798, married William Cowden, of Plymouth, and died in August, 1861; John, born in 1801, lived in Springfield, and died in 1853; Ann, born in 1804, now widow of Valentine Keely, of Roxborough; Rachel, born September 19, 1806, now wife of Enoch Shoemaker; Hannah, born in 1809, married Phineas Michener, of Plymouth township, and died in 1867.

Enoch and Rachel (Mitchel) Shoemaker have been the parents of the following-named children: Samuel, born August 8, 1833, died in infancy; Charles, born July 8, 1836, now living in Whitpain township; Hannah, born May 3, 1839, now Mrs. John H. Mann, of Horsham; Sallie J., born July 25, 1843, attended a select school taught by Enoch H. Supplee, of Philadelphia; Mary Amanda, born March 26, 1846, died in the fifth year of her age.

Charles, second son of Enoch Shoemaker, attended the common schools, also the school of G. D. Wolfe, at Norristown, in the fall and winter of 1856. He was married to Mary S., daughter of Joseph P. Conard, of Whitpain township, December 24, 1863. They have been the parents of children as follows: Joseph Conard, Enoch (died in infancy), Ella, Rebecca J., Rachel, Annie C., Mary K., Charles and Frank.

Hannah Shoemaker, daughter of Enoch and Rachel, attended the Adelphia Institute, at Norristown, during the winter and spring of 1857. She was married, March 13, 1862, to John H. Mann, of Horsham. Mr. Mann is a descendent of an ancestor who came to America in 1733, and settled in Bucks County. In 1748 he moved to a farm of one hundred and sixty-four acres, which he had taken up in Horsham township. Samuel Mann, grandfather of John H., was married, in 1777, to Margaret Keith, daughter of William Keith, of Makefield, Bucks Co., at whose house General Washington had his headquarters when he marched against the Hessians at Trenton, on the night of December 25, 1776.

The children of John H. and Hannah (Shoemaker) Mann have been Charles S., now a student in the State Normal School, at West Chester; W. Henry; Albert H.; Rachel, deceased; Enoch, died in infancy; Sallie L.; Walter; and Ann Cornelia. Mrs. Mann is a member of Puff's Lutheran Church, in Upper Dublin.

Mr. Shoemaker, the subject of this memoir, received in his youth only such education as was afforded by

the common country schools of that time. He was apprenticed to Morgan Morgan, in Gwynedd township, to learn the blacksmith's trade, at which he afterwards worked about one year with Andrew Fisher, at Chestnut Hill, soon after which he left the business and returned to his father's farm in Whitpain, where he remained until his marriage. He then settled in Springfield township on his father-in-law's farm, which he rented from year to year for sixteen years, and then purchased. He has now lived on the place for fifty-three years. For the first thirty-two years after his marriage he lived in the old farm-house, then removed to the new house, which has now been his residence for twenty-one years. Mr. Shoemaker was by birthright a Friend. Mrs. Shoemaker is a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church at Barren Hill. Their daughter, Sallie J., is a member of the Manatawny Baptist Church.

On the 8th of March, 1882, the "golden wedding" festival of Enoch and Rachel Shoemaker was celebrated at their house by eighty-four persons, nearly all of whom were members of the family. The Rev. William Smith, of the Cold Point Baptist Church, and the Rev. Charles T. Pritchard, of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, were present and conducted the religious exercises, which were preceded and followed by vocal and instrumental music. The presents were numerous and valuable. The family history was read by Charles S. Mann, grandson of the venerable couple. The ceremonies and festivities were continued during the entire day, and the occasion was one which will be long remembered by those who participated in it.

CHAPTER LXXIV.

TOWAMENCIN TOWNSHIP.¹

TOWAMENCIN² township is one of the central townships of the county, bounded on the northeast by Hatfield, south by Worcester, southeast by Gwynedd, southwest by Perkiomen and west by Lower Salford. Its greatest length is four and a half miles, breadth nearly three, with an area of about six thousand acres. The surface is slightly rolling, and the soil a red shale. It is watered by the Skippack and Towamencin Creeks. The former has a course of nearly three miles, but furnishes no valuable water-power. The latter is a branch of the Skippack, and lies almost wholly within the township, and in a course of six miles propels two grist-mills. These streams also receive several tributaries within this territory, all of

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

² The name of this township is spelled both Towamencin and Towamensing. Though there is good reason for thinking that Towamensing was the original spelling, we have adopted Towamencin because it is so spelled in official proceedings at Norristown, and has been for many years.

which go to help the volume of the Skippack, a confluence of the Perkiomen.

The only material public improvement is the Spring House and Sumneytown turnpike, finished in 1848, which crosses the township for a distance of three miles near its centre. According to the census of 1800, it contained 473 inhabitants; in 1840, 763; and in 1880, 1282. Although its progress has not been rapid, yet every decade has shown an increase. The real estate in 1882 for taxable purposes was valued at \$847,735, and including the personal, \$929,235. The taxables were 313, and the aggregate per head is \$2968, making it in point of wealth the tenth township in the county, and almost the equal of Gwynedd. In 1883 we find here two hotels, one hardware, one boot and shoe, one general store and three dealers in flour and feed. It contains six public schools, open six months, with an average attendance of 233 scholars; in 1856 five schools were open four months, with an average of 142 pupils. The census of 1830 gives 144 houses, 175 families and 132 farms. It contains five churches, belonging, respectively, to the Mennonites, Dunkards, Lutheran, Reformed, Schwenkfelders and Methodists.

Towamencin is a name of Indian origin, and no doubt was taken from the stream bearing it. In March, 1728, the territory was formed into a township, and at the request of the petitioners called Towamencin. A draft thereof in the records states its area to be "about five thousand five hundred acres." Although its boundaries have not since been changed, yet, like all other early surveys, its area is now made somewhat more, no doubt in part brought about by a closer or more exact measurement through the increased value of lands. A list of the land-holders and tenants of this township was prepared in 1734, which we now propose to give here in full, being thirty-two in number, which necessarily must contain some of its earliest settlers, of whom, to a limited extent, a further account will be given: Joseph Morgan, 200 acres; James Wall, 100; John Morgan, 200; Daniel Morgan, 200; Daniel Williams, 200; John Edwards, 250; Joseph Lukens, 200; Jacob Hill, 100; Hugh Evans, 180; Cadwallader Evans, 100; Christian Weber, 50; Nicholas Leshner, 150; Paul Hendricks, 100; Jacob Fry, 200; Peter Weber, 150; Peter Tyson, 100; Christian Brinaman, 150; Lawrence Hendricks, 150; Garret Schrager, 100; Leonard Hendricks, 150; Henry Hendricks, 123; Herman Gotschalk, 100; John Gotschalk, 120; Gotschalk Gotschalk, 120; Abraham Lukens, 200; Francis Griffith, 100; William Nash, 50; Henry Fry, 50; Felty Consenhsier, 23; Peter Wentz; William Tennis, 25; Jellis Jellis, 22 acres.

It is apparent, in examining the above list, that many of the early settlers came hither after a brief residence in or around Germantown. As their children grew up and the country became more improved they moved to where cheaper lands abounded, though at the expense of greater toil.

The first land probably taken up in Towamencin was a grant of one thousand acres from Penn's commissioners of property to Benjamin Furley, June 8, 1703. This was purchased nine days later from Furley's attorneys by Abraham Tennis and Jan Lucken, who, in 1709, divided it, each taking five hundred acres. This tract embraced the northern part of the township and extended to the present Skippack road, and perhaps as far down as Kulpville. Here they settled and made the first improvements, and even to this day the descendants of John Lucken or Lukens retain a portion of the ancestral tract. Henry Fry purchased twelve hundred and fifty acres on the Towamencin Creek from Benjamin Fairman, December 10, 1724, on which he also was the first settler. The Tennis family, it appears, for awhile flourished here. On the list of 1734 we find only the name of William Tennis with 25 acres, but in 1776, Samuel Tennis with 192 acres, and William and Israel Tennis. They possessed an old burial-place in the northeast part of the township, though the name has now become extinct in this section. Christian Weber made his purchase in 1728, and very likely then made his residence here. Wilhelm, Heinrich, Lorentz and Gerhart Hendricks resided at Germantown before 1700. William Hendricks and his sons, Henry and Lawrence, were naturalized in 1709, to hold and enjoy lands. Among the descendants of those in the list of 1734, the Hendricks and the Gotschalks are still numerous, and the names of Lukens, Wentz, Fry and Edwards are still here. The last is the only surviving one of those of English or Welsh origin, who then constituted over one-third of the total number. William Nash, in May, 1747, was a collector of taxes in Towamencin.

Jan Lucken came from Holland in the fall of 1688 and shortly afterwards settled at Germantown. According to his Bible record, he had seven sons and four daughters. Elias was born in 1686; William, 1687; John, 1691; Peter, 1696; Mathias, 1700; Abraham, 1703; and Joseph, in 1705. Jan Lucken made his will October 9, 1741, leaving to his son Abraham three hundred acres, to be taken off the southeast side of his tract, and the balance he directed to be sold. Abraham made his will March 31, 1776, by which it appears he had nine children,—John, Mathias, William, Abraham, Joseph, Job, Margaret, Jonathan and Enos. His executors were Elizabeth, his second wife, and sons John and Mathias. The homestead, of two hundred acres, situated near the present Union or Brick Church, was sold out of the family. In the assessment of Towamencin for 1776 we find Abraham Lukens taxed for 215 acres; Joseph Lukens, 98; John Lukens, son of Abraham, 115 acres; Peter Lukens, 87 acres; and John Lukens, 109 acres. John Lukens, son of Abraham, continued to reside on his homestead until his death, and his son George became its owner in 1805, and retained possession for about forty-four

years. The Lukens family here, like their kindred in Horsham, appear to have been noted for longevity, as well as for being substantial land-holders.

Heinrich Frey or Fry, a native of Altheim, in Alsace, it is stated, came to Pennsylvania before the arrival of William Penn and settled near Roxborough. In 1692 he was married, at Germantown, to Catharine, daughter of Wigart Levering. They had nine children, of whom six were sons. He purchased, as has been mentioned, twelve hundred and fifty acres on Towamencin Creek in 1724. It is a family tradition that two of his sons walked up from the Wissahickon, a distance of eighteen or twenty miles, on Monday mornings, bringing their provisions along with them for the week, for the purpose of making a clearing and erecting a house, which they completed by the following spring. A few Indians, who appeared friendly, were still lingering here, having a couple of wigwams on the banks of the stream. The chief, who visited the scene of their labors, observed them eating bread, when they gave him a piece, which he ate and pronounced good. On the following week they brought him an extra loaf, at which he was greatly delighted, and in return the following day brought them a saddle of venison. The eldest of these brothers was Jacob, who had two sons and two daughters, whereof Daniel Fry is still living on the homestead at the good old age of ninety-four years, and yet very active. The family possess an ancient burial-ground in the township, which is now in a dilapidated condition. In the assessment of 1776 we find, as in 1734, the name of Jacob Fry with two hundred acres. The late Jacob Fry, of the Trappe, member of Congress and auditor-general of Pennsylvania, is represented as a descendant of this family.

Christian Weber and wife, Appolonia, arrived in Philadelphia in 1727, and the following year purchased a farm on the west side of the present turnpike, adjoining Gwynedd line. He built a stone house here in 1737, which is still standing. His death occurred in 1778, at the age of eighty-two years. He had sons,—Jacob, Benjamin, Nicholas and Christian. Jacob Weber had three sons,—Abraham, Benjamin and Isaac. Christian Weber, Jr., was born in 1743 and married Elizabeth Wiedner in 1765, and kept an inn half a mile below Kulpsville, on the west side of the turnpike, now the residence of William H. Anders. His wife died in 1805, after which he married the widow of the Rev. Jacob Van Buskirk. He was a captain in the Revolution, and, it is said, recruited one hundred men for the service. Governor Mifflin appointed him a justice of the peace, and he also served in the beginning of this century as one of the county commissioners. He had two sons,—John and Jesse,—who both became prominent men. The former was born in 1768, became a miller, and in 1807 was elected to the Assembly, of which he served twice as Speaker. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob and Catharine Reiff, and had five

children. His death and also his father's occurred in 1815. Jesse Weber was captain of the Montgomery Union Troop of Horse, to which post he was elected September 28, 1807, and afterwards, with his company, went into the service at Camp Dupont during the late war with England. He was also elected from this county to the Assembly in 1844 and the following year. We find rated in Towamencin for 1776, Christian Weber, Sr., for fifty-two acres; Christian Weber, Jr., one hundred; and Benjamin Weber, sixty-four acres.

Caspar Kriebel and his wife, Susanna, arrived in Pennsylvania in 1734, and settled in the southern corner of the township, on the place now owned by his descendant, Abraham H. Kriebel. His children were George, Abraham and Susanna. He died February 16, 1771. His son, Abraham Kriebel, was born in 1736, and married, in 1762, a daughter of George Shultz. He died in 1801 and his widow in 1820. The farm on which he lived and died, at the Schwenkfelder Meeting-house, he inherited. Melchior Kriebel and his wife, Anna, the daughter of George Drescher, also came in 1734. He died February 14, 1790, aged eighty years. His children were David, Susanna, Melchior and Rosina. In 1776 we find Abraham Kriebel rated one hundred and eighty-nine acres.

Susanna Weigner, widow, whose maiden-name was Seipt, arrived at the same time with her children,—Abraham, George and Rosina. Abraham Weigner married Susan, daughter of Abraham Yeakle, May 31, 1750. Their children were Maria, Sarah, Rosina, Susanna, Abraham and John. He died March 13, 1781, aged sixty-two years.

Abraham Yeakle and wife, Maria, arrived in 1734 and died January 12, 1762. His children were Balthasar (born in 1736), Hans, Susanna, Rosina and Elizabeth. Balthasar Yeakle married Rosina, widow of Christopher Reinwalt and daughter of David Heebner, October 7, 1760. His children were Esther, Maria, Catharine and Abraham. He had in 1776 one hundred and fifty acres of land. He died April 18, 1789. Hans or John Yeakle, who resided in Towamencin, was also the son of Abraham; married Anna, daughter of Christopher Weigner, in 1762. Their children were Maria, Regina, Christopher, Joseph, Magdalena, Jacob, Christian, Anna, Abraham and John. He died in 1801, aged sixty-two years, and his widow in 1822, nearly eighty. He was rated in 1776 with one hundred and fifteen acres. Balthasar Anders and his wife, Anna Hoffrichter, came in 1734 with the others. He had three children,—George, Anna and Abraham. He was a shoemaker by occupation and died in 1754, aged fifty-six years. His widow survived until 1784, having attained nearly eighty-four years. George Anders was rated in 1776 for one hundred and fifty acres and as having a family of seven children.

Yellis Cassel, who, in the list of 1776, is rated for eighty-two acres, was the great-grandfather of Abra-

ham H. Cassel, the noted antiquarian of Lower Salford, who was born in this township September 21, 1820, as was also his father, Yellis, and grandfather, Hupert Cassel. Yellis and Hupert Cassel were landholders in Perkiomen township in 1734. The former arrived about 1715, and the latter in 1727. Johannes Cassel, who settled in Germantown in 1686, it is supposed was uncle of the first Hupert. Frederick Wampole came from Germany in 1744, and purchased from Abraham Lukens one hundred and fifty acres, on which he resided, and was witness thereon to interesting scenes connected with the Revolution. Among the township officers of the past, we find Joseph Smith constable, in 1767; Frederick Wampole, supervisor, 1773; John Luken, constable, 1774; and Garret Gotshalk, assessor, and Owen Hughes, collector, in 1776.

The road from the present Spring House to Marlborough township was laid out and confirmed in June, 1735, and, in consequence, was for a long time afterwards called the North Wales road, and as it became extended further northwards, became known also as the Maxatawny road. In 1829 a charter was granted to turnpike this road up to Sumneytown, and though great efforts were used to secure sufficient stock along its route to complete it, they failed until 1848. This was a great improvement over the old route, not only in being much straighter, but in the reduction of grade. The Forty-Foot road, which extends through the whole length of the township was laid out several years before the Revolution. It was over this highway that the army marched from Skippack to their encampment.

Through the success of continued researches, the writer has ascertained that the occurrences that transpired in this small township during the Revolution are unusually interesting, and for which here but a very brief space can be given. The battle of Germantown was fought on the morning of October 4, 1777, and resulted disastrously to the American cause, when Washington immediately returned with the main body of the army up the Skippack road, beyond the Perkiomen, in the vicinity of the present Schwenksville, where they remained until the afternoon of the 8th, when he arrived and established his camp nearly a mile northwest of Kulpsville, near the Lower Salford line. The officers wounded in the battle were brought to a farm-house on the Forty-Foot road, about a mile and a quarter southwest of the Mennonite Meeting-house. General Nash, who had been wounded in the thigh by a cannon-ball which had killed his horse, we know from an eye-witness, was carried up hither on a litter made of poles. Washington may have come here on purpose to attend the funeral on the following day, for which he issued his orders that he should be interred at ten o'clock, and that "all officers whose circumstances will admit of it will attend and pay this respect to a brave man, who died in defense of his country."

Washington made his headquarters at the house of

Frederick Wampole, whom we have mentioned as being supervisor, and who in 1773 was rated for two hundred and twenty acres of land, one servant and four horses. The house was about half a mile north of the meeting-house. It belonged to J. W. Wampole, Esq., as late as 1856 or the following year. The present owner is Jacob Detweiler, who took down the old house in 1881 and built a new one in its place. In his letter to Congress, dated at Peter Wentz's, in Worcester township, four miles distant on the Skippack road, Washington says: "We moved this morning from the encampment at which we had been for six or seven days past, and are just arrived at the grounds we occupied before the action of the 4th. Our motive in coming here is to direct the enemy's attention from the fort." The Rev. Jacob Duché, of Philadelphia, through the defeat at Germantown, was induced to write a letter, on the 8th, to Washington, desiring him now to abandon the cause and stop the further effusion of blood, and at the head of the army demand from Congress that they make peace. This letter was delivered to him here on the 15th by a female whom he had induced to deliver it, an undertaking which certainly no sane man of his own free will would have risked.

While the camp was here a court of inquiry was ordered and held respecting the conduct of General Wayne at Paoli, of which Lord Stirling was president. John Farndon, a private of Colonel Hartley's regiment, was sentenced, September 25th, to suffer death for desertion to the enemy, and was executed here at noon of the 9th, immediately after the funeral, thus adding additional solemnity to the day, traditions respecting which are still extant in the old families of the neighborhood. The place of execution, it is said, was on the Lower Salford line, about a quarter of a mile northeast of where the turnpike crosses the Skippack Creek, the premises being now owned by J. Wampole. Major John White, a resident of Philadelphia and an aid of General Sullivan, was shot dead by a British soldier from a cellar-window in the attempt to fire Chew's house. Lieutenant Mathew Smith, a native of Middlesex County, Va., in the hazardous effort to carry a flag to demand a formal and immediate surrender was killed by a ball within musket-shot of the building. Concerning Colonel Boyd, we have so far failed to secure any other information than that he and the officers were buried beside each other in the Mennonite graveyard, opposite the camp, and their names even John F. Watson, the annalist, could not give, though on the monument committee. The chief authority that Washington made his headquarters at the house of Frederick Wampole rests in the letter of Colonel Henry Laurens to his father, president of Congress, dated at "Headquarters, Wampole's, October 15, 1777," who was aide-camp and private secretary to the commander-in-chief during the whole of this period.

Kulpsville is the only village of this agricultural

township, and outside of it there is little produced in the way of manufactures. It is situated on the Sumneytown and Spring House turnpike, near the centre of the district, ten miles from the former and seven from the latter place. Its situation is high, and it can be seen for several miles in coming from either direction on the turnpike. It contains at present about fifty houses, two hotels, one store, several carriage manufactories, besides various mechanic shops. A three-story brick hall, built in 1856, and surmounted with a steeple and clock, is a conspicuous mark to the surrounding country. The first story is occupied by a manufacturing establishment, and several of its upper rooms are used as lodges by the Odd-Fellows and the Order of American Mechanics, and the hall is used for worship, lectures, exhibitions and literary exercises. The Methodist Episcopal Church, a one-story brick building, was erected in 1862. In the fall of 1883 the public school-house here was enlarged, and the books of the Literary and Library Association removed to the second story. The village also possesses a brass band, which has been organized for several years. A house of worship was also erected here in 1879 by the German Evangelical denomination.

The name of the place is derived from the Kulp family, of which Jacob Kulp, in 1776, was rated for one hundred and six acres, which lay in the eastern part of the village and extended on the turnpike to the corner of the present Kulpsville Hotel. Opposite, at this date, to the northward, but also on the same side of the pike, lay Henry Smith's (the weaver's) tract, containing eighty-seven acres, which will go to show how insignificant this place was in the Revolution. Jacob Kulp was the son of Peter, who had come from Germany and who also had two other sons, Henry and Dilman. Jacob died here in 1818, at the age of seventy-seven, leaving a son, David C. Kulp, who started the first store here in 1812, was a justice of the peace for forty years and died about 1843. His son, Charles C. Kulp, received the first appointment of postmaster here in 1829, and thus its name became established. The place at this date contained seven houses, a tavern (kept by Mordecai Davis) and a blacksmith-shop. In 1858 it contained two hotels, two stores and twenty-three houses, chiefly brick, and several mechanic shops. A licensed inn was kept here by Hugh Hughs in 1773, by Israel Tennis in 1779 and by Jacob Wampole and Elizabeth Weber in 1790. At this time these were the only public-houses in the township. By an act of Assembly, passed in 1797 the townships of the Fourth District comprising Gwynedd, Montgomery, Towamencin, Hatfield, Franconia, Lower Salford, Upper Salford and Perkiomen, were required to hold their elections at the inn of Christian Weber. This act remained in force until 1802, when Upper Salford and the western part of Perkiomen were attached to other districts. In 1824 the entire county was divided into fourteen

districts, whereof several townships still continued to vote here.

Early Churches in Towamencin—**MENNONITE.**—Not half a mile above Kulpsville, on the west side of the Sumneytown turnpike, stands the Mennonite meeting-house, a plain, one-story stone building, about twenty-four by twenty-eight feet in size, erected in 1805. It is situated on a knoll, at the foot of which flows a small stream, which in a short distance loses itself in the Skippack Creek; near by stand several gnarled and venerable oaks, the whole presenting an olden-time appearance. There is reason to believe, from the early dates on the tombstones, that the first house of worship here may have been erected before 1750, and not likely much later. This building stood until near the building of the present meeting-house, having been destroyed by fire. The society having been remiss in keeping or preserving records, a difficulty exists to supply authentic data. An aged man of the vicinity related to a friend, in 1858, that he remembered well the old stone meeting-house, to which he had gone to worship with his father about the year 1788; that it had the appearance of being very old then and stood near the site of the present building. A log school-house was adjacent, which has been for some time substituted by a more substantial one, of stone.

To the antiquarian the graveyard attached to this meeting-house in several respects, is an interesting one to visit. In extent it may cover two acres, and it has undoubtedly been used for burial purposes for at least a century and a half. A stone was discovered here bearing the date 1733, and another of 1741. One without a date bears the inscription, "Yellis Cassel, a. 85 y." Many of the inscriptions are in German and several of the earliest have become illegible. In our recent visit the following surnames were taken down from its numerous tablets: Overholtzer, Eisenhart, Boorse, Delp, Stauffer, Drake, Ebert, Casel, Ruth, Frey, Kulp, Vanfussen, Hughs, Keaton, Stover, Detweiler, Mitchell, Rinewalt, Hendricks, Blackburn, Hechler, Metz, Neisz, Rosenberger, Godshalk, Allebach, Frederick, Gehman, Keeler, Moyer, Bernt, Schlosson, Bookhamer, Boyer, Hallman, Kratz, Swartz, Kepler, Zeigler, Keyser, Clemmer, Nice, Klein, Snare, Hunsicker, Eaton, Freed, Nuss, Funk and Roop. Families bearing about one-third of those names are still pretty numerous in the surrounding section. Mitchel, Hughs, Blackburn and Eaton appear in curious contrast, not being German. Here there repose the remains of General Nash, Colonel Boyd, Major White and Lieutenant Smith, of the Continental army, either slain or mortally wounded in the attack at Germantown. Over the body of General Nash has been placed a white marble monument about ten feet high, erected in 1844 by the citizens of Germantown and Norristown. The other officers lie adjoining the monument, with simple head and foot-stones of marble a foot in height.

SCHWENKFELDER.—The meeting-house of this denomination is located about two miles from Kulpsville, near the south corner of the township. About the date of its origin here there is a difference of opinion. One authority states that a school-house and dwelling combined was erected here in 1765, and another that the date was 1790.* A death on one of the tombstones is dated 1745, and inclines us to the former view. As the members of this denomination arrived first in this country in September, 1734, and that some of them had settled around here at least in 1735, is confirmed by an early marriage record. Before the erection of their first log school and dwelling-house they were in the practice of worshipping at each other's houses. If they did not constitute themselves a regular congregation earlier than 1782, then the date of 1790 might be correct.

Their first elder or minister in Pennsylvania was George Weiss, who was ordained an elder in 1735 and served until his death, in 1740. He was succeeded in the ministry by Balthasar Hoffman, of Lower Salford, who died in 1775. In 1783, Christopher Kriebel was chosen for the district, followed, in 1802, by Melchior Kriebel, Melchior Schultz and Balthasar Heebner. The present ministers are George Meschter and Reuben Kriebel, who have officiated since May 26, 1849. The first marriage celebrated was that of Balthasar Krause to Susanna Hoffman, January 16, 1736, and probably the first death was that of Maria, wife of Christopher Kriebel, April 11, 1738. Early in April, Bishop Spangenberg, of the Moravian Church, came among them, making a brief stay at the house of Christopher Weigner, now the residence and farm of George Anders, near by. The present plain, one-story stone meeting-house was built in 1854, and is situated on the edge of a forest that extends towards the south. The lot on which it stands does not quite contain an acre, the cost of which and the house was about thirteen hundred dollars. Everything here bears the appearance of neatness and seclusion, which, it seems are carried out in their other places of worship.

The oldest stone in the graveyard that bears an inscription has that of "A. R. W., 1745." Another informs us of the death of Balzer Anders, who died in 1754, aged fifty-six years, and one of a death in 1770. The most frequent name is that of Kriebel, next that of Anders; than may follow: Schultz, Schneider, Heebner, Weigner, Seipt, Drescher, Gerhart, Reinwalt, Clemens, Adams and Sauter. Nearly all the inscriptions are in German, except a few of recent date. In this language the services are still exclusively conducted. Like the Society of Friends, they have no sacrament nor baptism. The ministers receive no remuneration, but about that the society does not appear to be unduly scrupulous. Like most other religious bodies, they are relaxing from their former exclusiveness, and liberal or more enlarged ideas are securing place. Marriages are now allowed with the outside world, in which they have followed the Dun-

kards, and thus the cause of human fraternization is spread. This denomination has five houses of worship in the county, one of which is in the adjoining township of Worcester and the other in Lower Salford. In 1845 they were estimated to comprise in Pennsylvania about three hundred families, or eight hundred members.

DUNKARD.—Next in the order of time is the Dunkard, or German Baptist, meeting-house, situated near the western corner of the township, on the east bank of the Skippack Creek, and fronting on the Forty-Foot road, and within a distance of one hundred yards of the Lower Salford line. It originated in the first schism of the old Skippack or Perkiomen Mennonite meeting. About the close of the Revolution, Christian Funk, one of its members, came out in advocacy of the doctrine of resistance to England, and the justice of supporting the same. A few joined with him in these sentiments, among whom was Jacob Reiff, Jr., who built for them a meeting-house on his own grounds in 1814. On his death, about two years after, the property came in possession of his son, John, who had joined the Dunkards, and to that denomination he willed it with a lot of half an acre. Thesect has ever since maintained here regular worship. The first building having become considerably out of repair, it was torn down, and a new one, of frame erected in 1882, twenty-six by thirty-five feet with a slate roof. It has no settled minister, but is supplied as a branch by the Indian Creek and Skippack congregations. From the latter meeting-house it is about four miles distant.

LUTHERAN AND REFORMED.—This is designated by those congregations as Christ Church, and is situated about a full half-mile above Kulpsville, on the east side of the turnpike, close to the Lower Salford line. It is built thirty-five by forty-five feet in dimensions, two stories high, and cost originally two thousand two hundred dollars. The corner-stone was laid May 27, 1833, and dedicated for worship October 15th. On the first occasion addresses were delivered by the Rev. George Roeller, of the Lutheran Church, and Rev. Samuel Helfenstein, of the German Reformed. Owing to the material of structure, it is popularly denominated through this section as the "Brick Church."

Its first Lutheran pastor was the Rev. John W. Richards, a grandson of the Rev. Henry M. Muhlenberg. He took charge June 1, 1834, and continued in the same until April 3, 1836, when he resigned and went to Germantown. Next was the Rev. Jacob Wampole, until his death, January 3, 1838, aged thirty-five years, greatly beloved and respected. Rev. Henry S. Miller succeeded from April, 1838, till May 9, 1852, —over fourteen years. He is now residing at Phoenixville, aged upwards of eighty-two years. Rev. George A. Wentz was next elected, June 28th, and continued three years. Rev. A. S. Link remained in charge till March, 1859, when the Rev. George Sill was

elected. All the aforesaid were also pastors of the Trappe congregation. The Rev. Mr. Baker, of Sellersville, is the present pastor.

For the German Reformed the Rev. H. S. Bassler was the first pastor, who served until May, 1839. After a vacancy the charge was filled by the Rev. I. W. Hanger, who remained about two years, when the congregation was supplied by Rev. Henry Gerhart. In March, 1843, the Rev. A. Bentz was elected, who served nearly three years. He was succeeded, in the spring of 1846, by the Rev. T. W. Naille, who remained until 1857. The Rev. W. G. Hackman assumed the duties near the beginning of 1858, and remained for some time. The present pastor is the Rev. S. M. K. Huber. The late venerable Benjamin Reiff, of this denomination, it is said, was one of the most active and successful in obtaining funds for the erection of the church, to which he was also a liberal contributor.

The church is well shaded, among the trees being some handsome evergreens, which should be more common at such places. The graveyard contains about three-fourths of an acre, and in the half-century of its existence a goodly number have been interred. In the southwest portion of the ground we find a stone with an inscription, "Sacred to the memory of Jacob Sower, who departed this life November 24, 1843, aged ninety years and five months. He was one of that patriotic band which achieved the independence of his country." The following surnames were copied from the tombstones: Smith, Krupp, Godshalk, Wile, Johnson, Snyder, Reiff, Baker, Kreamer, Wampole, Boorse, Yocum, Titus, Schneider, Oberholtzer, Schell, Brown, Delp, Garges, Macknet, Fry, Brey, Huth, Wagener, Wilson, Rush, Hechler, Cassel, Weber, Emery, Zepp, Kinsey, Gaul, Hoot, Clemmer, Mace, Hendricks, Bower, Hagey, Master, Henning, Drake, Feable, Will, Schmidt, Berger, Geiger, Reifinger, Metzger, Rudy, Steyer, Barnes, Shoemaker, Sult, Kulp, Detra, Delp, Fox, Reese, Belzer, Rosenberger, Underkoffler, Stillwagon, Koch, Groth, Alderfer, Hoefer, Lutz, Shupp, Hartzel, Miller, Moyer, Funk, Richard, Becker and Sorver.

ASSESSMENT OF TOWAMENCIN, 1776.

Garret Godshalk, assessor, and Owen Hughes, collector.

John Yellis, 108 acres, 2 horses, 3 cattle; Henry Yellis, 130 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Samuel Tennis, 192 a., 2 h., 3 c.; William Hendricks, 60 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Humphrey Hughes, 1 h. 1 c.; Baltzer Yeakle, 150 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Michael Moyer, 2 h., 3 c.; Abraham Lukens, 215 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Frederick Wampole, 220 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 4 c.; John Lukens, son of Abraham 115 a., 2 servants, 3 h., 4 c.; Henry Smith, weaver, 87 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Evan Edwards, 91 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Nicholas Gotshalk, 1 h., 1 c.; John Yeakle, 115 a., 1 servant, 4 h., 5 c.; Owen Hughes, 143 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Christian Weber, Sr., 52 a.; Christian Weber, Jr., 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Joseph Lukens, 98 a., 4 h., 4 c.; Peter Lukens, 87 a., 4 h., 6 c.; George Anders, 150 a., 250 a., in Gwynedd, 7 children, 3 h., 7 c.; Abraham Kneable, 189 a., 4 h., 10 c.; Abraham Weiguer, 2 c.; George Meister, 34 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Rosanna Seifert, 135 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Paul Hendricks, 99 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Samuel Hendricks, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Springer, 60 a., 2 h., 3 c.; saw-mill; Leonard Hendricks, 125 a., 1 h., 2 c., aged; Adam Gotwaltz, 270 a., 3 h., 7 c.; Jacob Fry, 260 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Henry Lesh, 2 h., 3 c.; William Godshalk, 160 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Peter Hendricks, 88 a., 2 h., 3 c.;

Benjamin Hendricks, 88 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Garret Godshalk, 60 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Christopher Reinwalt, 58 a., 2 h., 3 c., grist-mill; Jacob Kolb, 106 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Harman Boorse, 20 a., 2 c., 1 servant; John Lukens, 109 a., 90 a. in Gwynedd, 4 h., 4 c.; Baltus Reinwalt, 89 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Elizabeth Evans, 190 a., 3 h., 5 c.; John Boorse, 44 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Daniel Springer 1 h., 3 c.; Catharine Godshalk, 13 a., 1 c.; Peter Godshalk, 113 a., 1 servant, 2 h., 3 c.; Baltus Miller, 1 c.; William Evans; Arnold Boorse, 46 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Leonard Hendricks, Jr., 89 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Shott, 1 h., 2 c.; Christopher Meister, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Jacob Updegrave, 200 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Jacob Pennebaker, 82 a., 2 h., 3 c.; William Tennis, 2 h., 2 c., 56 a. in Lower Salford; Joseph Eaton, 1 h.; Israel Tennis, 1 h., 3 c.; John Edwards, 48 a.; Abraham Dresher, 129 a., 3 h., 5 c.; William Hendricks, 1 c.; Rowland Evans, 1 h., 1 c.; Andrew Label, 2 c.; Jacob Grub, 113 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Yellis Cassel, 82 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Daniel Miller, 2 c.; Benjamin Weber, 64 a., 2 h., 1 c.; George Lutz, 1 h., 2 c. *Single Men*.—Frederick Wampole, Abraham Wampole, Peter Boorse, Garret Godshalk, Godshalk Godshalk, Evan Evans, Jehu Evans, John Edwards, David Spice, George Pluck, Frederick Fisher.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

JOHN C. BOORSE, ESQ.

The progenitor of the Boorse family in Montgomery County was Harman Boors, a native of Holland, who came to this country at an early period, probably about the middle of the last century, and settled in what is now Towamensing township, Montgomery Co., Pa., near what is now the village of Kulpsville. He was, no doubt, a man of considerable wealth and enterprise, and possessed also a liberal education. In his business transactions it became necessary for him to cross the ocean several times, and on his last voyage to America he died at sea. He was the father of five sons—viz., John and Henry, died without issue; Peter, married, and died May 1, 1797; Arnold and Harman, Jr.

Harman, Jr., was the father of the following children: viz., John; Margaret, born September 8, 1765, no issue; Peter, born August 28, 1767, was married and left four children; Henry, born December 25, 1769, died November 27, 1777; Anna, born September 22, 1772, married Abraham Hendricks October 22, 1793; Catharine, born March 28, 1775, married Samuel Metz November 10, 1796; Sybilla, born April 2, 1777, married Jacob Hendricks; Susanna, born February 25, 1779, married Jesse Lewis February 19, 1799; and Elizabeth, born February 17, 1782, married Samuel Kriebel.

John Boorse, grandfather of John C. Boorse, was born October 17, 1763, married Elizabeth Cassel June 8, 1797, and died January 26, 1847. His wife died July 26, 1830. They were the parents of Abraham, Henry C., Magdalena, Peter, Daniel, Joseph, Harman, Jacob, Catharine, Mary and Hubert Boorse. Magdalena married Jacob Boyer, Catharine married James Lloyd and Mary married Elias Cassel. Only four of these children are now living—viz., Jacob, Joseph, Mary and Hubert.

Henry C. Boorse, father of John C. Boorse, was born October 14, 1799, in Towamensing township, on

the farm now owned by Hubert Boorse. This farm has been in the Boorse family for over one hundred and thirty years. Henry C. was married, March 5, 1822, to Susanna Cassel, and died April 26, 1869. She died April 6, 1856. They were the parents of children, as follows:

I. Barbara, born December 8, 1822, married Henry K. Zeigler, of Skippack, and died in March, 1866.

II. Ephraim, born January 24, 1825, married Miss Elizabeth Zeigler, of Skippack.

III. John C., born June 27, 1831, married, January 21, 1855, to Miss Mary Rittenhouse, daughter of Samuel

William Bechtel, of Collegeville, Pa. She died May 7, 1877.

V. Susan, born September 9, 1839, died December 18, 1856.

John C. Boorse, Esq., commenced his business career as a farmer, and in 1855 purchased of his father the old homestead, and conducted the business pertaining to a large farm until 1866, when he retired from the dull routine of the farm and engaged in the more active duties of surveyor, conveyancer and justice of the peace, the duties of which he still performs to the entire satisfaction of all parties concerned. He has



John C. Boorse

and Mary Rittenhouse, of Towamensing, and a lineal descendant of the celebrated David Rittenhouse. Their children are Alinda R., born May 29, 1856, died January 31, 1857; Mary Ann, born December 18, 1857, married Humphrey W. Edwards of Kulpsville; Melinda, born January 3, 1860, died August 31, 1860; Ella, born March 21, 1862; Lizzie, born March 25, 1864; Henry R., born September 21, 1866, editor and publisher of the *Towamensing Item*, established January, 1885; Alma, born December 9, 1868; Nora, born June 7, 1871; Edith R., born October 21, 1879.

IV. Catharine, born December 6, 1836, married

made five hundred and fifty-four surveys of different tracts of land, and has written seventeen hundred and sixty-four deeds and mortgages and taken acknowledgments of the same. He entered the political field in the early part of 1855, when he was elected township assessor, which position he filled for eight years. He was elected a justice of the peace at the spring election in 1862, and has held that office continuously until the present time. He has been one of the school directors of the township for six years, judge of election for two terms, member of the election board for twenty-seven years, a member of the Republican County Committee

(of which organization he is an enthusiastic member) for at least twelve years, and since the organization of the Republican party has been honored many times with a seat in the councils of its leaders, in the State and county, and has received the most flattering testimonials from the press of the county.

In his official capacity he formulated the charter and made the original survey for the borough of Lansdale. He was one of the original directors of the Lansdale Water-Works Company, and is the present secretary of the same; a director and secretary of the Lansdale Cemetery Association; one of the original members and secretary of the Towamensing Creamery Association; one of the originators of the Kulpsville Literary and Library Association, and one of its active members; a director in the Perkiomen Fire and Storm Insurance Company of Montgomery County. He was the official surveyor of the borough of Lansdale from 1872 to 1881.

He was the originator and prime mover in getting the first telephone line from Norristown to Kulpsville *via* North Wales and Lansdale, with station at his office.

He held the office of justice of the peace for twenty-three years, during which time only nineteen cases were returned to court; he always endeavored to settle cases before going to court. As the Hon. Judge Ross at one time remarked before court: "If all justices of the peace in the county would act like John C. Boorse, of Kulpsville, thousands of dollars would be annually saved to the county in costs."

In 1870 he received the appointment to take the census of Towamensing and Lower Salford townships, which he filled with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the department.

In 1865 he received the unanimous nomination for county commissioner, and ran far ahead of the regular ticket; the Democratic party being then in large majority, he was defeated.

He was also several times strongly urged by the leaders and many others of the party to become a candidate for the Legislature, which honor he positively refused, saying "he was not competent."

He was one of the delegates to the State convention held in 1875, in Lancaster, and voted for John F. Hartranft for Governor and William Rawle for treasurer. He was an active committeeman in the county's centennial, and is also a member of the Montgomery County Historical Society.

He has been a member of Providence Lodge, No. 345, I. O. O. F., since 1867, trustee, treasurer and representative to Grand Lodge of the same for several years, and one of the directors of the Odd-Fellows' Endowment Association of Pennsylvania. He became a member of Charity Lodge, No. 190, F. A. M., Norristown, October 10, 1872; is also a member of Norristown Chapter, No. 190, R. A. M., and was knighted in Hutchinson Commandery, No. 32, K. T., stationed at Norristown, January 25, 1875.

Mr. Boorse has always been active in all progressive movements of the age in which his business life has thus far been spent, especially anything tending to improve the morals and intellect of the young and rising generation by whom he is surrounded.

CHAPTER LXXV.

UPPER DUBLIN TOWNSHIP.¹

THIS township is regular in form, approaching a square, and is bounded northeast by Horsham, south by Springfield, southwest by Whitemarsh, west by Whitpain, east by Moreland and southeast by Abington. It is four and one-half miles long, three and one-fourth wide, and contains an area of eight thousand eight hundred and forty acres. Its surface is rolling and the soil fertile, composed of limestone and loam. Camp Hill is an elevation of Revolutionary memory that commences in Whitemarsh and extends eastwardly across the township on the north side of Sandy Run. The Wissahickon passes through the west corner over a mile, propelling two grist-mills, and receiving as tributaries Rose Valley, Pine and Sandy Runs, which also furnish water-power. The limestone and iron-ore belts extend across the southern angle, following the valley of Sandy Run nearly two miles.

The township is crossed by the Spring House turnpike two miles, the Lewisville and Prospectville pike two miles, Upper Dublin and Horsham pike one mile, Linckiln pike three and one-half miles and the Plymouth and Upper Dublin pike over one mile. The latter two roads were constructed in 1851 and 1855. The North Pennsylvania Railroad passes nearly a mile and a quarter through its western angle, and has a station at Ambler, fourteen and one-half miles from Philadelphia. The villages are Ambler, Fitzwattertown, Jarrettown, Three Tons and Dreshertown; with a post-office at each, excepting the last-mentioned place. The population in 1800 was 744; in 1840, 1322; and in 1880, 1856. The taxable real estate in the year 1882 was valued at \$1,652,492, and including the personal, \$1,758,452, the average per taxable being \$3094. Upper Dublin contains fourteen square miles, and, according to the census of 1880, had then 132 inhabitants to the square mile. In May, 1883, licenses were issued to four hotels, nine general stores, one stove-store, six dealers in flour and feed, one coal-yard, one lumber and fertilizers, one tobacco-store and one restaurant. Without Ambler, it contains five public schools, open ten months, with an average attendance of 148 for the school year ending June 1, 1881. The census of 1850 returned 243 houses, 245 families and 129 farms. Every census taken since

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

1800 shows in this township a remarkably steady increase in its population.

According to Holme's map of original surveys, the first land-holders in Upper Dublin, commencing at the Abington line, between the Susquehanna Street road and Horsham, were Samuel Clarrige, Pierce & Co., Richard Hill and Richards & Aubrey; south of that road to the Gwynedd line, in the same order, William Salaway, Mathew Perrin, Henry Patrick, Mathias Seely, John Southworth, Richard Coates, Andrew Soule, Thomas Marle and William and George Harmer. If the aforesaid is correct, it is very probable, judging by the list of 1734, that not one (unless the Harmers be excepted) of those mentioned was a settler, being merely dealers in land, which they took up with a view to speculation. It was, in consequence, settled slowly, and we cannot find that it was recognized as a township much earlier than 1719. Records exist establishing the fact that in 1705 it was regarded as a portion of Abington; hence we may justly conclude that its territory was set off from that township, but at what exact date cannot now well be ascertained.

To touch on the early settlement of Upper Dublin, it is, perhaps, best to refer first to the list of resident land-holders and tenants in the township in 1734, and from that date base all anterior claims. According to that authority, there were at the time mentioned thirty-five, as follows: Derick Tyson, 100 acres; Richard Witton, 200; Joseph Charlesworth, 200; Joseph Brittain, 100; Ephraim Heaton, 100; Ellis Lewis, 200; Trump's estate, 200; Samuel Spencer, 100; Daniel Roberts, 200; William Atkinson, 50; Rees David, 100; Edward Burk, 200; Edward Burk, Jr., 20; Hugh Burk, 100; Thomas Parker, 90; Peter Cleaver, 100; William Melcher, 100; John Harmer, 100; Dennis Cunard, 100; Joseph Tucker, 200; Joseph Nash, 100; William Lukens, 200; John McCathery, 100; Thomas Fitzwater, 200; John Conard, 200; John Hamilton, 50; Thomas Fitzwater, Richard Reagan, Thomas Davis, John Trout, Charles Hubbs, Henry Rinkard, Ellis Lewis, John Loanan and Robert Doughty.

Edward Burk's purchase was made from Nicholas Scull and others November 21, 1698, and extended from the Susquehanna Street road to the Whitemarsh line, and included a part of the present village of Ambler. It must have been soon after this date that he settled upon his tract, and he was probably one of the earliest settlers in the township. Edward Burk, Jr., and Hugh Burk were his sons. John Burk was a supervisor of roads from 1774 to 1777, and from this last date Edward Burk continuously to 1786. He was also a collector of taxes in the Revolution. In 1776 we find assessed in this township Edward Burk, "aged," fifty acres; Edward Burk, Jr., seventy-eight acres; John Burk, sixty acres; John Burk, single. Charles Burk, now in his eightieth year, resides on the old homestead, which has never been out of the family. His father and grandfather bore the name

of Edward Burk. The latter was born on this place in 1761, and died in 1832. He is the last survivor of eight children and the only one bearing the name now in the township. The family have been among the earliest members of the St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, of which he has been warden since 1833. The records of this church go back no further than 1742, when Hugh Burk was warden and John Burk a vestryman.

It is known that Thomas Fitzwater owned real estate and carried on lime-burning at the present village of Fitzwatertown before June, 1705, when he had sent in a petition for a road from his kilns to Pennypack Mills; but it was not attended to until 1725. His father, Thomas Fitzwater, with sons, Thomas and George, came from Middlesex, England, and arrived in the ship "Welcome," with William Penn, in November, 1682. His wife, Mary, and children, Josiah and Mary, died on the passage. He originally settled in Bucks County, which he represented in the Assembly in 1683. He afterwards removed to Philadelphia, and was again in the Assembly in 1690. He was a preacher among Friends, and died October 6, 1699. In the assessment of Upper Dublin in 1776, John Fitzwater is rated for three hundred acres of land and a grist-mill. Mathew and John Fitzwater, probably sons, are also mentioned thereon. John Fitzwater, a descendant of this family and an extensive lime-burner and real estate owner, died at Fitzwatertown, May 13, 1857, in his eighty-fourth year, and was buried in the family burying-ground near by. He was owner of a portion of the Emlin estate, on which is the large mansion used by Washington as his headquarters, while the army lay in the vicinity of Whitemarsh. Fitzwater as a surname has now become extinct in Upper Dublin.

Dennis (or Tunis) Kunders (or Conard) came from Germany and settled at Germantown before 1700, and with his sons—Conrad, Mathias and John—was naturalized September 29, 1707, to hold and enjoy lands. Peter Cleaver also settled in Germantown, and in 1695 was married, in Abington Meeting, to Catharine Shoemaker, and naturalized in 1707. We find here in 1776, Peter Cleaver owning one hundred and fifty acres; John Cleaver, one hundred; and Isaac Cleaver, one hundred acres. Descendants still possess lands here. The Houpt family is also of German origin, and in Montgomery County has produced several successful business men. Samuel Houpt, in 1776, is rated here as possessing a farm of ninety-five acres. His descendants have become numerous. Respecting the Lukens family, in 1776, Ryner Lukens is rated for 100 acres; Joseph Lukens, 100 acres; Isaac Tyson, 150 acres; Mathew Tyson, 50; and Jonathan Tyson, 123 acres and a grist-mill. Samuel Spencer, who is mentioned in 1734, was still living in 1776 and represented as "aged," and owing 150 acres; James Spencer, 150; and John Spencer, the same number of acres. They resided in the eastern part of the township and were members of Horsham Meeting.

Joseph Nash, in the list of 1734, may possibly be the same on whom a raid was made by the British while they held possession of Philadelphia, for which he was allowed two hundred and twenty pounds damages thus sustained.

The road from North Wales or Gwynedd to Germantown and Philadelphia, but now better known as the Bethlehem road or turnpike, which was laid out in 1704, but not opened until 1714, passes two miles across the west corner of the township. What is now called the Welsh road was opened from Gwynedd in 1712, forming the boundary line of Horsham, and extends to the present Huntingdon Valley, on the Pennypack. Respecting this road, there was a dispute, in 1731, between the two townships about keeping it in repair. Although Thomas Fitzwater had applied to the court for the grant of a road from his limekilns to the Pennypack Mills, by way of Abington Meeting-house, in 1705, it was not laid out and opened until 1725. This is the road now leading from Fitzwatertown through Weldon and Jenkintown. The Limekiln road was in use and bore this name before 1716. John Burk, in June, 1744, sent a petition to the Court of Quarter Sessions, stating that he had lately erected a grist-mill in Upper Dublin, and that he was in want of a road of about half a mile in length from the same to the Gwynedd road, passing on his line, with lands of Andrew Bradford deceased. It was accordingly ordered to be laid out. This is now the present John Heist's mill, above Gilkison's Corner.

Thomas Fitzwater was appointed collector of taxes for Upper Dublin in 1719; the amount was £10 10s. 8d., equivalent to \$28.80 of our present currency. Thomas Siddon was collector in 1722 and John Trump in 1723. Hans Caspar Schlater was supervisor of highways in 1765; James Spencer, to 1767; Michael Trump, to 1770; George Reagan, 1771; Samuel Murray and Christian Herner, 1772; John Spencer and John Burk, 1774; John Burk and Michael McCrory, until 1777; John Cleaver and Joseph Butler, 1786; Isaac Cleaver and George Dresher, 1788; Amos Lewis and George Dresher, 1792; Christopher Dresher and Jonathan Scout, 1810. Samuel Houpt was constable in 1767, James Spencer assessor in 1776, and Edward Burk collector.

At the present Gilkison's Corner, on the Bethlehem turnpike, Andrew Gilkison kept an inn from 1779 to 1786, and most probably later; hence the name of the place. This was on the store property now owned by David Dunnet. About a quarter of a mile above this place was a tavern formerly kept by Benjamin Daves. Paul Bower kept an inn in 1774, and Susanna Wright in 1779, which we are at present unable to locate, but very probably in this vicinity. In 1776, John Fitzwater, Jonathan Tyson, Joseph Detwiler and Lewis Rynear owned grist-mills, and Arthur Broades a fulling-mill, at the present village of Ambler.

Upper Dublin contains at present within its limits five houses of worship, namely: Puff's Lutheran,

Friends', Dunkard, Methodist Episcopal at Jarrettown and Baptist at Ambler. There are, besides, five private graveyards, belonging to the Fitzwater, Dresher, Whitcomb and Bergenstock families, and one on the McCormick property.

The large stone building used by Washington as his headquarters while the army lay in this vicinity is still standing in Upper Dublin, on the south side of Camp Hill, but a few yards from the Springfield line, and about half a mile from Whitemarsh. In the beginning of this century it was owned by Caleb Emlin, to which was then attached two hundred and thirty-six acres; after his decease, in 1810, it was sold in several tracts. The mansion and about one hundred and twenty acres were purchased by Mr. Stuckert, next by Mr. Frey in 1833, by John Fitzwater, and after his decease, in the fall of 1857, was purchased by the present owner, Charles T. Aimen, who has taken due care in its preservation. For its day it was certainly a great affair, and even now not many mansions are built larger. It is of stone, seventy-five by thirty-five feet, two full stories in height, and to it was formerly attached a wing on its western end, containing the kitchen. In making some repairs, over thirty years ago, it was deprived of its hip-roof, but otherwise has been very little changed. The hall is fifteen feet wide. The steps at the main front door are of fine soapstone, neatly wrought, and the general appearance of the building denotes it to have been at the date of its erection a superior structure. Its walls are substantial, and with care could be made to last yet for a long time. While Washington was here the army was encamped on the hill to the north of the mansion, which was certainly a strong position. It is even yet principally covered with woods. The encampment lasted from October 20 to December 11, 1777, when they proceeded on their march to Valley Forge. On the night of December 5th, General Howe came hither from Philadelphia, by way of Chestnut Hill, with a view of surprising the camp; but on seeing the position and unable to draw out the Americans, returned, by way of Abington and Jenkintown, to the city, the result proving the expedition a failure.

The Friends' Meeting-house is situated about half a mile northwest of Jarrettown, and was built in 1814 on a lot of ground presented for the purpose by Phebe Shoemaker. It is a one-story stone building, thirty-six by forty feet in dimensions. From its elevated position a fine prospect is afforded, towards the south of Edge Hill, for some distance, and the intervening country. The ground attached covers about two acres, on which are also erected several sheds for the accommodation of horses. About twenty yards from the front-door is a horse-block, of stone, consisting of five steps to the top, four and a half feet from the ground and three and a half feet wide, now so rare as to become an object of interest to the antiquary. The graveyard covers nearly an acre, and seldom among Friends is one seen having so many white

marble tombstones, though rarely over a foot high and with brief inscriptions. The surnames found are Lukens, Teas, Rutter, Beans, Shoemaker, Lightfoot, Hawhurst, Hughs, Rich, Danenhower, Thomas, Garrigues, Cadwallader, Spencer, Fitzwater, Shaw, Wilson, Reiff, Willard, Conard, Robinson, Kenderdine, Matlack, Dunnet, Sill, Tyson, Atkinson and Potts. The families originally composing the meeting were those of David Lukens, George Shoemaker, Naylor Webster, Joseph Kenderdine, Samuel Conard, Cornelius Conard, Thomas Hallowell, Jacob Kirk, Levi Jarrett, Charles Thomas, Jesse Lukens, Phebe Shoemaker, Daniel Shoemaker, Thomas Shoemaker, Elizabeth Potts, George Dunnet, Jacob Reiff, Isaac Thomas, Atkinson Hughs, Michael Trump and Jonah Potts, now all deceased. A First-day school was started here in 1875, and has been the means of increasing the general attendance of the meeting.

The German Baptist, or Dunkard, meeting-house is nearly a mile northeast of Ambler, on the Plymouth and Upper Dublin turnpike. It is a one-story stone building, twenty-eight by thirty-six feet in dimensions, and was built in 1840. The ground belonging to it is nearly an acre, of which the graveyard occupies about two-thirds. The tombstones contain the names of Reiff, Moore, Smith, Livezey, Gamble, Slingluff, McCool, Jones, Sperry, Fry, Wentz, Souders, Detra, Lear, Ford, Walton, Bisson, Henry, Kneezel, Buchanan, Lightcap, Haycock, Wolfe, Collum, Fulmer and Faringer. Before the erection of the meeting-house the congregation worshiped in a school-house in the vicinity. For some time it was a branch of the Germantown Meeting, and was served by their ministers. Elder John Price was its first stated pastor. Caleb H. Price was elected and preached here until he went to the West. John Slingluff and others next supplied the pulpit for several years, or until about 1881, when Israel Poulson, from New Jersey, settled within its bounds and the charge was given him. Worship is held here every Sunday, the services being conducted in English.

The flourishing village of Ambler is situated in the western corner of the township, on the east side of the Wissahickon Creek, and near to the Gwynedd and Whitpain line. Its origin and prosperity have been chiefly owing to the North Pennsylvania Railroad, and only dating since its construction in 1856. The census of 1880 gives it a population of two hundred and fifty-one inhabitants, and it promises, from its present prosperity, ere long to add to the present number of boroughs in the county. In 1883 it contained one hotel, one hardware, one drug and two general stores, one lumber and two coal-yards, a grist-mill and about seventy houses. The Baptist Church here is a one-story stone building, of which the Rev. Mr. Humphreys is pastor. Upper Dublin post office was removed here from Gilkison's Corner several years ago, and has only been recently changed to Ambler. In December, 1880, this village, with a small portion of

Whitemarsh, Gwynedd and Whitpain adjoining, was formed into an independent school district, of which about one-half of the territory was included from Upper Dublin. The public school building here is of stone, two stories in height, of which Lizzie Magee is teacher. For the school year ending June 1, 1882, it was open eight and a half months with an average attendance of forty-six pupils. There is here also a beneficial society, incorporated May, 1883,—Camp No. 215, of the Patriotic Sons of America,—and several manufacturing establishments. A newspaper was published for about six months, by Dr. Rose, called the *Ambler Times*, which was succeeded, in December, 1882, by *The Ambler Gazette*, which continues to flourish. In the south part of the village, beside the railroad, is the extensive establishment of Keasbey & Mattison, manufacturing chemists, who employ about sixty hands, chiefly in the preparation of carbonate of magnesia and quinine. The business was commenced here in 1881, and they use several steam-engines, the largest of eighty horse-power. Their office in Philadelphia is at 332 North Front Street. The First National Bank of Ambler was organized in May, 1884, with a capital of fifty-five thousand dollars; Benjamin P. Wertsner, president, and J. J. Houghton, cashier. A bank building was commenced in 1884, and is now nearly completed. To the east of the village is Ambler Park, at which, for several years, an agricultural exhibition has been held. The turnpike through this place was made in 1855, on what has been long known as the Butler road, and extends from the Three Tons to the borough of Conshohocken. The grist-mill owned in 1776 by Joseph Detwiler is now in possession of Edward Plumly, on the west side of the Wissahickon. Arthur Broades had a fulling-mill here, on Rose Valley Run, in 1776, since owned by the Ambler family, but no longer in operation. The track of the North Pennsylvania Railroad here was stated by the engineer to be one hundred and ninety feet above tide-water level. Should this in the future become a large town, it will possess, from its situation, excellent facilities for a water supply, so often found wanting at growing places.

Fitzwatertown is situated in the southern part of the township, on the Limekiln turnpike, in the midst of the fertile valley of Sandy Run, abounding in limestone and iron-ore. This is an old settlement, where Thomas Fitzpatrick followed lime-burning before the summer of 1705 and had a grist-mill erected at an early period. It contains a store, hotel, wheelwright and blacksmith-shop, grist-mill and about twelve houses. The post-office was established here before 1858. The value of lime produced in Upper Dublin for 1840 was stated to be twenty thousand two hundred and seventy-five dollars, which was all produced in this vicinity, but the business has since been greatly increased through railroad facilities. Edge Hill Station, of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, is only a mile distant; yet, with all its surpassing ad-

vantages, as may be observed, has made but very little progress for the last half-century. The grist-mill mentioned was long carried on by John Price and is now owned by Samuel Conard. Sandy Run is a steady stream rising at the Moreland line, about three miles distant.

Jarrettown is the second largest village, and is situated near the centre of the township, on the Limekiln turnpike, which was constructed in 1851. It contains a hotel, store, a three-story Odd-Fellows' Hall, two story public school-house and twenty-one houses. The post-office was established here in 1866. Gordon in his "Gazetteer," mentions this place in 1832, as containing five or six dwellings. The name of the place was derived from Levi Jarrett, the owner of several farms in this vicinity in 1815. In 1776, John Jarrett was assessed for two hundred and thirteen acres. The name of Jarrett, like those of Fitzwater and Dresher, has now become extinct in Upper Dublin. On the east side of the pike, in the lower part of the village, stands the Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1866. The pastors who have served are J. W. Haskins, Abel Howard, W. L. McDowell, R. Tumer, J. R. Bailey, M. Barnhill, E. C. Yerkes, A. J. Collom, E. Townsend and G. L. Schaffer. The elections of the township are now held at Jarrettown; previous to 1840, strange to say, they had always been held at Whitemarsh, nearly five miles distant, since the origin of the county, over fifty-five years.

Dreshertown is situated at the intersection of the Limekiln turnpike with the Susquehanna Street road, and equidistant from Fitzwatertown and Jarrettown. As these two highways are ancient, they must denote an early settlement. It contains a store, grist-mill and eleven houses. A post-office was established here in 1832, and the township elections held here from 1840 until after 1856; both have since been removed to the more flourishing village of Jarrettown. George Dresher, the ancestor of the family, with his wife, Maria, arrived in Pennsylvania, in 1734, from Silesia, and settled in the vicinity of Towamencin. George Dresher, his grandson, shortly after the Revolution, moved to this vicinity, and was one of the supervisors of Upper Dublin in 1788 and 1792. Christopher Dresher, son of George, was born in 1771, and married Anna, daughter of Abraham Anders, in 1799. Their children were Agnes, Rebecca, George and Eli. Christopher Dresher, after whom the place was called, died January 23, 1839, in this village, aged sixty-eight years. He was the owner of the farm now belonging to Jacob Barnet. Christopher Dresher was also a supervisor in 1810. George, the brother of Eli, died January 6, 1851, aged thirty-five years.

The village of Three Tons is situated in a fine, fertile section of country, at the intersection of the Horsham and Butler roads, the latter being turnpiked to Ambler, two and a half miles distant. It contains a store, hotel, school-house, several mechanic shops and five or six houses. The post-office was established

here in 1858; T. G. Torbert, postmaster. The Union Library of Upper Dublin is kept here, over the store of E. T. Comly, and now contains about two thousand volumes. It was incorporated May 25, 1840; E. T. Comly, treasurer, and Ellie Teas, secretary and librarian. The Upper Dublin Horse Company, organized many years ago, holds its annual meetings here. Recent researches establish the fact that before 1722 a well-traveled path led from Edward Farmar's mill, in Whitemarsh, through this place, to Richard Saunders' ferry, on the Neshaminy (now the village of Bridge Point, three miles south of Doylestown).

Gilkison's Corner is situated at the intersection of the Spring House and Butler road turnpikes. It contains a store, six or seven houses and the extensive steam tannery of Alvin D. Foust, established some thirty years ago. It was at this place where Andrew Gilkison kept a tavern in the Revolution and for some years thereafter. The Upper Dublin post-office was located here before 1827, but has been removed half a mile distant, to its more flourishing rival, Ambler, to which its name has only been recently changed.

Upper Dublin Lutheran Church.—In its vicinity this church is better known as Puff's church, and is located at the east corner of the intersection of the Susquehanna Street and Butler roads, about a mile northeast of Ambler. Concerning its history very little has heretofore been published; but with the assistance of the Rev. B. M. Schmucker, of Pottstown, one of the editors of the "Halle Reports," we are enabled to present an account of this early congregation. The organization of the church was effected in 1753 or 1754 by the Rev. John Frederick Handschuh, the resident pastor of Germantown. It is supposed, from the fact that the burying-ground was then here, that he preached several years previously at this place. The first building was constructed of logs, of which the Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg, of the Trappe congregation, gives us a relation in his report to Halle, dated June 18, 1754. He says,—

"Many German Lutherans reside in this neighborhood, and although new beginners and poor, they have erected a roomy school and meeting-house and have besought aid from us. Mr. Handschuh has visited them and administered the word. I visited them at their request and preached on a week-day, baptized several children in the presence of a large assemblage of German and English people, who had gathered from North Wales and other adjacent parts. As there was as yet no roof on the building, and it was difficult to preach in it, I urged the poor people to follow my example, and add their contributions to mine, so that at least one-half of the building might be roofed in, which was done."

Mr. Handschuh ministered to the congregation for several years, perhaps until 1757, when the charge devolved upon Mr. Muhlenberg, who sent his student, William Kurtz, to preach, and afterwards committed it to the care of his assistant, Rev. John Helfrich Schaum, who was settled at New Hanover, and took charge of Upper Dublin in the spring of 1758. He continued in the same until 1762, when he removed to Berks County. Mr. Muhlenberg, however, had the general oversight, and occasionally visited the con-

gregation. In January, 1763, he administered the communion and stated that he was no longer able to minister to them. In the following June the Rev. Nicholas Kurtz took temporary charge of Germantown and Upper Dublin until June, 1764. This care of the two churches by the same pastor was now continued for many years.

The Rev. Jacob Van Buskirk had charge from 1765 to 1769; John Frederick Schmidt from 1769 to 1785. The time at which his labors ceased is uncertain, but in 1785 the congregation, in union with Tohickon and North Wales Churches, applied for the recognition and ordination of Anton Hecht, who had been a schoolmaster among them, which request was refused. Mr. Hecht, however, was ordained by some independent minister and served Tohickon and some other congregations for several years, and probably preached at Upper Dublin. In 1793, Mr. Van Buskirk settled at North Wales and probably again preached to this congregation. In 1797, Rev. Henry A. Geisenhainer was licensed at the request of Upper Dublin and North Wales, and was pastor until 1801. Soon after this it was again connected with Germantown, and Rev. Frederick David Schaeffer continued in charge at least until 1810, and possibly until his removal to Philadelphia, in 1812.

At some unknown time, not earlier certainly than 1810 and possibly several years later, services ceased to be held, the congregation became scattered or lost, the building disappeared and the burial-place remained the chief reminder of the past. Chiefly through the efforts of the Hon. John B. Sterigere, whose kindred repose here, a charter was procured from the Legislature in 1852 for a Lutheran congregation at the old burial-ground so long known as Puff's. By the will of Conrad Amrich, proved in 1835, a bequest of six hundred and sixty-four dollars was made to keep the graveyard in repair. Services were held in the public school-house opposite, from 1852, with some regularity, until the erection of the present church by Revs. W. N. Baum and David Swope, of Whitemarsh Church. The corner-stone was laid October 15, 1857, and the church consecrated July 18, 1858, when Rev. John C. Baker, D.D., preached. Rev. Lewis Hippee was pastor until August, 1859; Rev. Edward J. Koons from March 3, 1860, to May 1863; Rev. George Sill from the following September to 1869; Rev. Mathias Sheeleigh from said date until the present time. The members now number about eighty.

The church is a one-story stone edifice, forty by fifty-six feet, with an iron railing in front. Worship is held here and at the Union Church of Whitemarsh alternately, the services being conducted in English. The graveyard contains about an acre of ground, and several of the earliest stones containing inscriptions are not legible. We find here the surnames of Baughman, Leonhart, Engard, Rodemick, Stout, Brock, Webster, Shaffer, Rynear, Smith, McAlonan, Fluck,

Dilthey, Rex, Baker, Collom, Hoffman, Behlmier, Swink, Thomas, Bates, Berkheimer, Snyder, Pruner, Houpt, Taylor, Sterigere, Aimen, Shay, Gilbert, Ulrich and Timanus. The Houpts appear to be the most numerous. One stone was observed bearing the date of 1762 and another of 1770. A marble column about ten feet high has been erected here over the remains of the brothers Wm. L. and John B. Sterigere. The latter died at Norristown October 13 1852, aged upwards of fifty-nine years.

In connection with this subject, we may add that the aforesaid was the son of Peter and Elizabeth Sterigere, and was born in Upper Dublin in 1793. He taught school when a young man in the school-house opposite, and at the age of twenty-five received a commission as justice of the peace and also followed surveying and conveyancing. In 1821 he was elected to the Assembly and continued for three years. He was elected to Congress in 1826, and now left his native township to study law and was admitted to practice in the fall of 1829. In 1839 he was elected to the State Senate and served two terms. As a member of the Borough Council of Norristown he contributed much towards its improvement. He died unmarried and left a handsome estate, the result of his own almost unaided exertions, having been born of poor parents, and in his youth receiving but a very limited education. He was a man possessed of mental ability and force of character.

Wm. Homer and his Reminiscences.—Wm. Homer was descended from a family that by an ancient document dates back to 1684 in Byberry and perhaps Bensalem, adjoining. Mention is made of one of this name owning a farm of fifty acres in the former township in 1734, and in 1782 of two hundred acres. It is likely the former was his grandfather, as he bore his name. His father was also William Homer, who moved from Byberry, in the spring of 1767, on the farm he purchased from James Thornton, containing one hundred and forty-four acres, situated in the east corner of Upper Dublin, a little over a mile northwest of the Willow Grove. Here the subject of this notice was born in July, 1767, and resided during his long life, extending nearly to a century. After he grew to manhood he married Hannah, the daughter of Morris Edwards, whom he many years survived. He had an only brother, Chilion, and two sisters. While young, in addition to working on his father's farm, he followed carpentering, and in the winter, in his work-shop, made bureaus, tables and other articles of furniture. As a mechanic he was self-taught, having a turn that way. He received a very ordinary education, having gone but to two places to school, one was near the present Dreshertown. His father, in the assessor's list for 1776, is rated for keeping two horses, four cows and six sheep,—a fair example of the amount of stock then generally kept on farms of similar size.

Several traits in the character of William Homer

deserve mention. He had his farm divided with the requisite buildings to each, which were rented to his two sons, Cyrus and Jesse, on shares, while he retained for his use a part of the old mansion. Being of a rather retiring and unassuming turn, he was given to spending a portion of his leisure with tools. He had a peculiar fondness for rearing bees, and an attachment to straw hives, also for pigeons, having often over a hundred together, which he loved to feed. The latter would often be shot at during autumn by depre-
 dating sportsmen hailing from Philadelphia and Germantown. He estimated men by their intellect or for holding landed estates like himself. He never went farther from home than to Philadelphia, Bristol, Newtown, Norristown and Doylestown, which would not exceed twenty miles. The latter place he remembered when it contained but three or four houses. He had also been to "Buckingham" as he called it. It is supposed that he had never ridden in a stage-coach, omnibus, steamboat or railroad car. He thus passed a contented and unambitious life, was of good habits and respected by his neighbors. On the 31st of January, 1860, he died at the advanced age of ninety-two years and six months, retaining good health till near the last. At his funeral, Henry Woodman, of Buckingham, delivered an excellent sermon. In religion he was a Friend, and he was buried in the graveyard attached to Horsham Meeting-house. He left two sons and three daughters; the former are now both deceased. Jesse Homer, the last, died on the estate March 6, 1883, in his eighty-fifth year. Extracts will now be given from his reminiscences, taken down by the writer in casual visits to his house fully one-third of a century ago.

He saw wild turkeys in his father's woods occasionally as late as the year 1785. Turkey buzzards were frequently seen as late as the beginning of this century. Wild pigeons, at times, were seen in immense flocks, particularly in 1793, the year of the yellow fever in Philadelphia. He remembered well one flock particularly, that appeared to be about one and a half miles long and all of half a mile in breadth. Previous to 1810 they bred in great numbers in the woods, and he had counted as many as twenty nests on one tree. He had himself caught, in nets, many thousands in the spring and fall. Horses and wagons were used to convey what were thus taken. One of his nets, now almost a century old, is still preserved in the family. The last bear seen in the vicinity was in the woods, nearly a mile northeast of his house, in 1772. In his woods he also showed traces of three saw-pits, which had been used in his father's day to convert logs into boards with a whip-saw.

Concerning the Willow Grove, he related the following particulars: Here he first went to school, in a log school-house that stood near the forks of the old York and Easton roads. Joseph Butler kept the

tavern there in the Revolution, being the stand so long known as the Red Lion. While the British held possession of Philadelphia a detachment came out and took him prisoner. Divisions of the American army encamped several times in the orchard back of the tavern. The soldiers appeared to be chiefly Virginians, who practiced shooting at a mark one hundred yards distant with rifles, and he stated that they got him to cut out the balls for them with a hatchet. In the skirmish of December 8, 1777, on Edge Hill, near the present Susquehanna Street road, where Morgan's regiment had twenty-seven either killed or wounded, some of the latter were brought in a wagon to Butler's tavern, where the scholars beheld them so bloody that it frightened them so that they hurried back to the school-house. Where is now the Mineral Spring Hotel lived Nathan Bewly, who followed scythe-making, and had a mill for grinding them immediately back of his house, in the meadow, the dam being on the west side of the York road, now Rittenhouse's meadow. He caught sunfish there with a hook and line. Near the present intersection of the railroad and turnpike there then lived a woman called Nanny McSween, whose husband followed hunting at the Blue Mountains.

On the formation of Montgomery County, in 1784, the elections for thirteen townships were held at the village of Whitemarsh, nearly four miles from his farm. On those occasions a great many pugilistic encounters took place, fighting being postponed for those occasions. He remarked the great diminution taking place in streams, through clearing the land and drainage. He remembered in his vicinity the sites of three grist-mills that had long ago disappeared, owing to a want of water. Apple-cuttings, apple-butter boilings, flax-pullings, flax-spinnings, corn-huskings and shooting-matches had become things of the past. About 1790 there resided about two miles west of him a famed "witch doctor," as he was called, of considerable practice. He was chiefly called upon to relieve children, horses and cattle thus afflicted. He was a witness more than once to his operation. He carried with him on these occasions, a large black-letter volume, bound with brass clasps, which he would open and repeat a peculiar lingo, and use certain powders to exorcise and ward off the evil influences under which it was supposed the victim had been laboring. That he possessed supernatural powers, and that witchcraft actually existed, was really believed in at this time by not a few throughout the country. Those that practiced the "doctoring" were really looked up to as following a beneficial calling.

ASSESSMENT OF UPPER DUBLIN, 1776.

James Spencer, assessor, and Edward Burk, Jr., collector.

John Trump, 158 acres, 1 horse and 1 cow; John Fitzwater, 300 a., 5 h., 5 c. and a grist-mill; Mathew Fitzwater, 1 h.; John Fitzwater, Jr.; Ellis Lewis, 280 a., 5 h., 5 c.; John Lewis, 1 servant, 3 h., 2 c.; Jacob Howell, 1 h., 1 c.; Joseph Nash, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Timanus, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c., aged; Peter Shoemaker, 14 a., 2 h., 2 c.; An-



Charles Dapson

drew Kastner, 140 a., 2 h., 2 c.; George Kastner, 140 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Stephen Brown, 75 a., 1 servant, 2 h., 2 c.; John Mann, 150 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Isaac Tyson, 150 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Jonathan Tyson, 123 a., 1 servant, 3 h., 3 c. and a grist-mill; Abraham Charlesworth, 200 a., 3 h., 4 c., aged and helpless; John Heston, 150 a., 2 h., 6 c.; Leonard Knorr, 1 h., 2 c.; Martin Faringer, 6 h., 6 c.; Michael Rapp, 4 h., 8 c., 1 servant; Rynear Lukens, 100 a., 5 h., 4 c.; Joseph Lukens, 100 a., 5 h., 3 c.; Isaac Kirk, 200 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Rynear Kirk, 200 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Mathias Smith, 100 a., 1 h., 1 c.; John Coler, 7 a., 1 c.; David Coler, 3 a.; Caspar Slater, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c., has 9 children; Mathusala Evans, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Daniel Rynear, 83 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Samuel Hout, 95 a., 2 h., 3 c.; George Regan, 100 a., 3 h., 5 c., 1 servant, aged; Mathew Tyson, 50 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Samuel McClory, 30 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Abraham Hollis, 3 h., 2 c.; Henry Inghart, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Edward Wells, 3 h., 3 c.; Daniel McVaugh, 3 h., 2 c.; Edward Burk, 50 a., aged; Arthur Broades, 24 a., 2 h., 3 c. and a fulling-mill; John Weiss, 80 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Lewis Rynear, 80 a., 2 h., 8 c. and a grist-mill; William Homer, 140 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Christian Herner, 150 a., 4 h., 7 c., has 7 children; Michael Trump, 140 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Abraham Trump; Catharine Inghart, 90 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Bastian Wolfinger, 1 c.; James Sloane, 1 c.; Peter Cleaver, 150 a., 1 h.; Nathan Cleaver, 2 h., 4 c.; John Cleaver, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Romer, 50 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Henry Romer; Isaac Cleaver, 100 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Alexander McDowell, 130 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Isaac Shoemaker, 100 a., 4 h., 2 c., has 7 children; Edward Burk, 78 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Isaac Wood, 40 a., 3 h., 2 c.; John Burk, 60 a., 3 h., 8 c.; Jacob Cobler, 14 a., 1 h., 1 c.; John Chestnut, 2 h., 2 c.; John Martin, 75 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Mathias Martin, 75 a., 1 h., 1 servant; John Trump, Jr., 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; John Jarrett, 213 a., 4 h., 8 c.; John Potts, 150 a., 2 h., 5 c.; John Spencer, 150 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Samuel Spencer, 150 a., 2 h., 2 c., aged; James Spencer, 150 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Jacob Shaneline, 2 h., 1 c.; John Robinson, 70 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Henry Grubb, 1 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Benjamin Walton, 5 h., 3 c.; Hannah Walton, 1 h., 1 c.; William Brown, 2 h., 1 c.; John Inghart, 2 a., 1 h., 1 c.; John Baker, 1 h., 1 c.; Mark Cupp, 25 a., 1 h., 2 c.; James McDowell, 1 h., 1 c.; James McCrory, 15 a.; John Whitcomb, 1 c.; Peter Budey, 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Woolrich, 140 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Jonathan Thomas, 9 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Rudolph Bartholomew, 2 h., 3 c.; George Snyder; John Jamison; Paul Brown, 19 a., 1 h., 1 c.; John Eiman, 6 a., 1 c.; Joseph Seifert; Jacob Fulmore, 1 c.; Joseph Cartwright; George Hoffman, 1 c.; Samuel Spencer, 30 a., 2 h., 2 c. Henry Fret. *Single Men*.—Amos Lewis, John McGlathery, James Britton, John Faringer, George Faringer, Jacob Lukens, Christian Herner, Jr., John Sterner, Peter Leasor, John Dunlap, Benjamin Stemple, William Inghart, Peter Inghart, John Burk, Nicholas Rynear and Amos Regan.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

CHARLES PAXSON.

Charles Paxson was the son of Joshua and Mary (Willett) Paxson, of Middletown township, near Langhorne, Bucks Co., Pa, where he was born on the 19th of August, 1803. He was one of the younger of a family of nine children, all of whom lived to pass the middle age, and one of whom (Mrs. Anna P. Burton, widow of Anthony Burton, of Bucks County) is still living, at Germantown. It is related of these nine children that they were all possessors of vigorous health, stout and robust in person, and that at one time their aggregate weight exceeded two thousand pounds.

In 1808, Charles Paxson removed with his parents from Bucks County to Cheltenham township, Montgomery Co., where he resided with them for eighteen years, on the farm which is now of the estate of John W. Thomas, deceased. In 1826, he removed from the paternal homestead in Cheltenham to Upper Dublin township, where he located on a fine farm

which his father, Joshua Paxson, had purchased a few years earlier, it being a section of the old Spencer property, patented from William Penn. In later years it became known as the "Spring Farm," on which Mr. Paxson lived for more than half a century, until his death, and which is now the residence of his widow.

Charles Paxson was married, January 4, 1844, to Agnes, daughter of John and Sarah (Paxson) Tyson, of Abington. The families on both sides, from their early ancestors down to the present time, have been of the Society of Friends. The children of Charles and Agnes Tyson Paxson have been Sarah T. (now living at the Paxson homestead), Joshua W., Anna B., Josephine (died in July, 1883) and Charles S. Paxson. Their father, Charles Paxson, died at his home, in Upper Dublin township, on the 2d of March, 1880, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. His remains were interred in the family lot in the Friends' graveyard at Abington.

At the time of his death Mr. Paxson was the owner of two farms, situated on the Limekiln, Horsham and Welsh roads, and aggregating two hundred and eighty-five acres of excellent and well-watered lands. He was a practical farmer, of advanced ideas, who pursued his chosen vocation with the intelligence, enterprise and industry which seldom, if ever, fail to yield the return which they gave to him,—that of abundant success. He possessed a firm will, a noble spirit and a genial nature. He ever gave his support to the wise reforms of his day, as opposed to traditional wrong and depredation, and he took especial delight in the eloquence of orators who, like Phillips, uttered what he termed sublime truths in advocacy of the righteousness which exalteth a nation. At the time of his death a gifted writer, who had known Mr. Paxson well and intimately through life, paid this truthful tribute to his memory: "The deceased was possessed of traits of character that, wherever found, adorn human nature. He was a good neighbor, a kind friend, an affectionate husband and a kind, considerate father; beyond these he was a just man, a liberal Christian, a patriotic citizen and an earnest reformer; a lover and helper of every good work that was going on in the world, that came within his cognizance. He was one of a half-dozen noble men in his neighborhood who uplifted the banner of anti-slavery in the beginning, in the time that truly tried men's souls, and maintained it to the end, not aggressively, but patiently, steadfastly, and without a thought of consequences or of giving up the contest while the wrong existed."

The ancestry of Charles Paxson and of his wife, Agnes Tyson, is traced back respectively to two brothers,—William and James Paxson, who came from Bucks County, England, to America, in the ship "Samuel," in 1682, and settled at Middletown (now Langhorne), in Bucks County, Pa. The first-mentioned William Paxson married Mary Packingham, and they

became the parents of William Paxson, the second, who was married, in 1711, to Mary Watson. Their son, William Paxson, the third, was married, in 1740, to Anna Marriott, daughter of Thomas Marriott and his wife, Martha Kirkbride, who was a daughter of Joseph and Phebe (Blackshaw) Kirkbride and a granddaughter of Randle Blackshaw. William and Anna (Marriott) Paxson were the parents of Joshua Paxson, who, with his wife, Mary (Willett) Paxson, were the parents of Charles Paxson; the subject of this memoir and the great-great-grandson of the William Paxson who came to America in 1682. On the maternal side his ancestry is traced still further back, to

The lineage of Agnes Tyson, wife of Charles Paxson, is traced back to James, the brother of the first William Paxson, who, as before mentioned, came to America and settled in Bucks County in 1682. William Paxson, son of James and Jane Paxson, was born October 25, 1675, and died in May, 1719. He was married, December 20, 1695, to Abigail, daughter of George Pownell. Their son, Thomas Paxson, was married, in 1731, to Jane Canby, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Oliver) Canby and granddaughter of Benjamin Canby and of Evan Oliver. Thomas Paxson died in October, 1782. His son, Jacob Paxson, was married, November 13, 1777, to Mary Shaw,



William C. Potts

Thomas Cornell, whose daughter, Sarah Cornell, married Thomas Willett; and their son, Col. Thomas Willett (baptized in 1645), married Helena, daughter of Elbert Stoothoff. Their son, John Willett, married Mary, daughter of John Rodman. They were the parents of Jonathan Willett, whose wife, Deborah Lawrence, was a daughter of Obadiah Lawrence, the granddaughter of Major William Lawrence and his wife, Deborah Smith, and the great-granddaughter of William Lawrence, and of Richard Smith. Jonathan and Deborah (Lawrence) Willett were the parents of Mary Willett, wife of Joshua Paxson and mother of Charles Paxson.

daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Shaw. A daughter of Jacob and Mary (Shaw) Paxson was Sarah Paxson, who became the wife of John Tyson and mother of Agnes Tyson, wife of Charles Paxson.

WILLIAM C. POTTS.

William C. Potts, of Upper Dublin township, and one of its most widely-known and prominent men, as he is also one of its most prosperous farmers, is of Welsh extraction, directly descended from the first emigrants of that family name,—David and Alice Potts,—who came from Wales to Pennsylvania, and settled at Germantown nearly, if not quite, two hun-

dred years ago. Among their descendants of two or three generations later was John Potts, who, in 1760, was married to Hannah Davis. Their farm was one of about one hundred and fifty acres, in which was included about fifty acres of the homestead property, now owned and occupied by their great-grandson, William C. Potts, in Upper Dublin. The house in which he now lives was built by John Potts for his son Thomas at the time of his marriage. It was occupied by Thomas Potts, the elder, during his life, and after him by his son, Thomas Potts, the father of William C. John Potts, the great-grandfather, died in 1808. His son Thomas was born July 7, 1761, and died March 2, 1812. His son, Thomas Potts, the second, was born February 23, 1802, and died February 4, 1870. His wife was Caroline Cooper, daughter of William Cooper, of Horsham township. She died in 1851.

William C. Potts, son of Thomas and Caroline (Cooper) Potts, was born November 10, 1827, in the house where he now lives, and which had been the home of his father and grandfather before him. The only other child of Thomas and Caroline C. Potts was Thomas Elwood Potts, who is now living on a good farm near his brother's, in Upper Dublin. The youth of William C. Potts was passed in the manner usual to farmers' boys of his time,—working on the farm in the summer season, and in winter attending the common schools, which furnished his only means of education. In 1855 he commenced farming for himself on the farm of his father, who at that time retired from the active pursuits of agriculture, but continued to live at the homestead with his son until his death, in 1870. The farm of Thomas Potts, which was seventy-seven acres in area, became the property of his son, William C., who has been very successful, not only as a farmer, but in other business enterprises. By subsequent purchase he has increased the farm to one hundred and five acres, well stocked and under excellent cultivation, and he is also the possessor of ample means independent of his real estate. He was an original stockholder in the First National Bank of Ambler, and has been a member of its board of directors from its organization to the present time. He has been a Republican in politics from the time of the formation of that party, but has never held nor in any way sought for public office of any kind.

On the 4th of January, 1855, William C. Potts was married to Phebe K., daughter of Jacob Walton, of Horsham township, and they have been the parents of the following-named children: Thomas Elwood (now living with them), Dubre K. (deceased), Carrie (died in her tenth year), Lydia W. (youngest child and living at home). Mr. and Mrs. Potts are members of the Upper Dublin Friends' Meeting, and the ancestors of both, for many generations back, were of the people called Quakers.

DAVID J. AMBLER.

David J. Ambler, of the village of Ambler, in Upper Dublin township, is descended from an ancestor named Joseph Ambler, of Montgomery township, who (as is shown by the Philadelphia County records) purchased a certain tract of ninety acres of land in that township of William Morgan, May 1, 1723. Among the children of this Joseph Ambler and Ann, his wife, were Edward and John Ambler. The ninety-acre tract in Montgomery township, above mentioned, was sold by Joseph Ambler, in 1768, to his son Edward, who, in 1770, devised it by will to his brother John, who was great-grandfather of the present David J. Ambler. In 1794, John Ambler sold the same tract for two hundred pounds to his son Edward, who was by trade a weaver. The present residence of Mrs. Mary Ambler, in Montgomery township, is the place where Edward Ambler lived, and where he died on the 1st of January, 1838. His wife, Ann Ambler, died October 15, 1827. Their son Andrew, the father of David J. Ambler, was married, May 14, 1829, to Mary Johnson, daughter of Benjamin and Abigail Johnson, of Richland, Bucks Co. The Johnson family was of German descent.

Andrew Ambler settled in Lower Dublin township, on eighty acres of land, which he purchased in 1832 of Mary Davies, and on which he built and occupied a house which is still standing in Ambler village, and owned by Charles O. Yocum. He was a fuller by trade, and soon after his settlement he built a fulling-mill on his land, on the site of a small mill of the same kind which had stood there more than seventy years, having been sold, in 1759, by the executor of Daniel Morris, to Arthur Broades, father of the Mary Davies, from whom Andrew Ambler had made the purchase. The Ambler fulling-mill remained in use many years, and was finally destroyed by fire December 31, 1869.

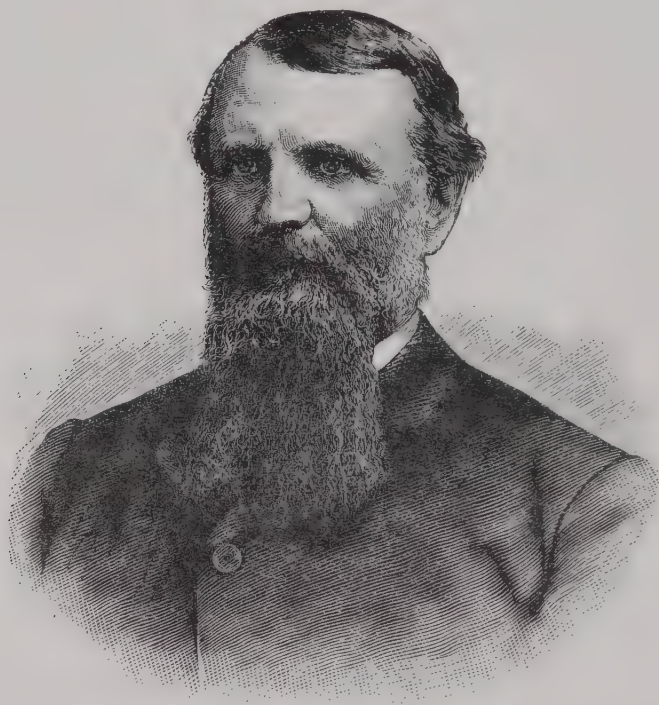
Andrew Ambler died March 7, 1850, at the age of fifty-six years. His widow, Mary J. Ambler, died August 18, 1868, aged sixty-three years. It was for her that the station (and from it the village) of Ambler received its name. During her widowhood (in 1856) a very serious railroad accident occurred near Fort Washington by the collision of a school excursion train going north with a local passenger train going south. On receiving the intelligence Mrs. Ambler, without a moment's delay, gathered lint, bandages and other necessary materials, and went on foot two miles to the scene of the disaster, where she remained through the day till all the wounded were cared for, rendering such conspicuous service to the suffering victims as elicited the warmest gratitude and high commendation from the officers of the railroad company, who, after her death, honored her memory by changing the name of the station from Wissahickon to Ambler.

David J., son of Andrew and Mary (Johnson) Ambler, was born March 22, 1837, at his father's place, in

what is now Ambler village. His education was obtained at the common schools, supplemented by two winter terms at the Freeland Seminary, then in charge of Henry A. Hunsicker. After leaving school he was employed for two years as a clerk in a store at Fitzwatertown, Montgomery Co. In 1859 he went to Quakertown, Bucks Co., where he established a coal and lumber business, in which he continued for ten years. In 1869 he removed to Upper Dublin township, where he purchased the homestead property on which he was born, and upon which a part of the village of Ambler was laid out and sold in lots in 1870—

rector from the time of its opening. He is now, and has been for four years, one of the directors of the Ambler Independent School District.

Mr Ambler was married, March 6, 1862, to Caroline F., daughter of Aaron Penrose, of Quakertown, Bucks Co. They have one daughter, Ella, who is the wife of Daniel M. Leedom, son of Dr. Edwin C. Leedom, of Plymouth, Montgomery Co. Three brothers of Mr. Ambler—viz.: Isaac E., Joseph M. E. and Evan J.—are also residents of Ambler village. Another brother, Louis J., resides in Philadelphia. The family of Ambler in Montgomery and Bucks Counties for



Daniel J. Ambler

71. In 1874 he returned to Quakertown, and again engaged in the coal and lumber business, which he still retains, though now living in Ambler, to which place he returned in 1878, and built the stone mansion which has from that time been his residence.

In the years 1866–68, inclusive, Mr. Ambler was a member of the Borough Council of Quakertown. In 1868 he was elected a director of the Doylestown National Bank, and resigned after two years' service. In 1884 he, with Benjamin P. Wertsner, William M. Singerly and others, organized the First National Bank of Ambler, of which he has been a di-

rector from the time of its opening. He is now, and has been for four years, one of the directors of the Ambler Independent School District.

JOHN L. JONES.

John L. Jones, one of the substantial land-owners and farmers of Upper Dublin township, of which he has been a resident for more than sixty years, was born on the farm of his father, in Montgomery township, of the same county, on the 25th of June, 1811. He was a son of Henry Jones and his wife, Jane Lewis, daughter of Amos Lewis, who owned and occu-

pied a fine farm at Three Tuns, Upper Dublin township. The children of Henry and Jane (Lewis) Jones were Lewis and Clement, both deceased; John L., born as above stated, and now residing at Jarrettown; and Henry, now living at Ambler, in Upper Dublin. The father of these children, Henry Jones, died in 1815, when his son John L. was between four and five years of age. He received his only education at the common schools, which he attended in winter, working on the farm in the summer season. In 1821 he moved, with his mother and the family, from the Jones

removed from the Lewis farm to a smaller property which he had purchased at Jarrettown, and which is still his place of residence. After his removal from the old homestead farm of his grandfather, Lewis, he still continued to own it about twelve years longer, and finally sold it in 1884.

John L. Jones was married, February 12, 1840, to Margaret Garrigues, daughter of Benjamin and Anna Garrigues, who were the parents of three daughters and one son, all of whom are now living, viz.: Margaret (Mrs. John L. Jones), Lee Garrigues (now of



John L. Jones

place, in Montgomery township, to the Lewis farm, near Three Tuns, which was then owned and occupied by his grandfather, Amos Lewis, who died a few months later in the same year. Mrs. Jones then occupied the farm of her father for nineteen years, until 1840, when she died and the property of herself and her deceased husband (the homestead and two other farms) was divided among their sons, Lewis, the eldest, taking the old Jones place of one hundred and seventy acres, in Montgomery township, and John L. becoming the owner of the Lewis homestead farm, of one hundred and eight acres, in Upper Dublin. On that place, as boy and man, he lived and worked as a farmer for more than a half-century, leading an honest and industrious life, and gaining a property more than ample for all his needs and requirements. In 1872 he

Norristown), Sarah (wife of George Wood, of Moreland township) and Ellen (wife of John Meredith, of Norristown).

The children of John L. and Margaret Jones have been Evan, born February 2, 1841, and died November 5, 1864; Jane, born January 13, 1843, and now the wife of Dr. Franklin T. Haines, of Rancocas, N. J.; Anna G., born February 13, 1845, and died April 1, 1866; Mary Ellen, born April 20, 1847, and died January 30, 1869; Caroline, born July 12, 1849, and died in infancy; Clement, born November 21, 1850, died in infancy; Henry, born November 28, 1852, died in infancy; Caroline H., born July 9, 1854, and died September 19, 1881; Louisa G., born August 6, 1857, died at Enterprise, Fla., March 12, 1882.

Mr. Jones has always been a steadfast adherent of

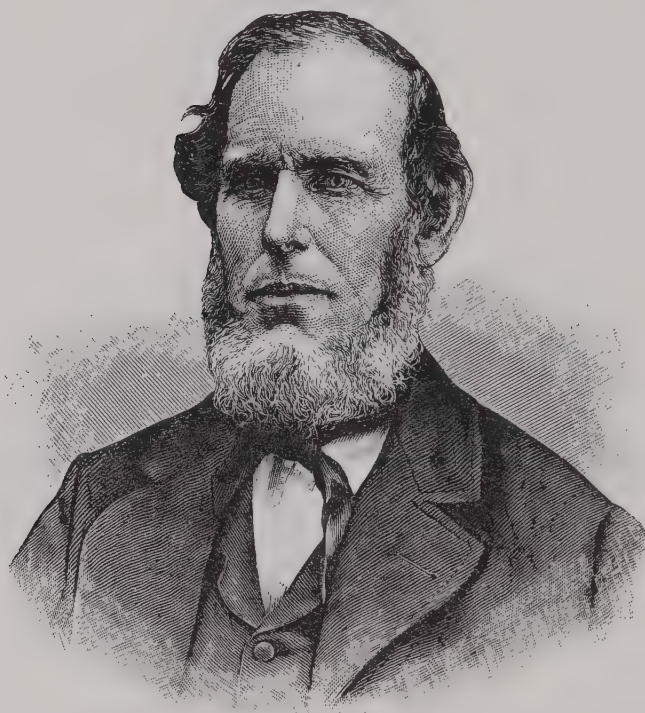
the Republican party from the beginning of its existence to the present time, but he has never been an office-seeker nor a politician, in the strict meaning of the term. He and his wife are descendants of Quaker ancestors, and both are members of the Friends' Meeting of Upper Dublin.

BENJAMIN KENDERDINE.

Benjamin Kenderdine, one of the wealthy farmers

the Horsham farm immediately after the death of its previous owner, Richard Kenderdine. From that early time to the present the Kenderdine family have been of the Society of Friends and members of the Horsham Friends' Meeting.

Benjamin Kenderdine, of Upper Dublin, was the youngest of Thomas Kenderdine's family of eight children, who were the following named: Armitage, who died in Illinois; Margaret, unmarried, and now living in Horsham township; Mary, married David Todd, and both she and her husband deceased; Han-



Benj. Kenderdine

and most respected citizens of Upper Dublin, was born in Horsham township, Montgomery Co., on the 16th of August, 1818, he being a son of Thomas Kenderdine, a grandson of Benjamin Kenderdine, and a great-grandson of Thomas Kenderdine (all of Horsham township), and a descendant of a more remote ancestor of the family name, who came from Wales and made his first settlement in Abington. The first of the Kenderdine family who settled in Horsham was Richard, a half-brother of the elder Thomas Kenderdine, which last-named purchased and settled on

nah, widow of Robert Tomlinson; Sarah, unmarried, living in Horsham; Elizabeth, married Chalkley Kimball, of Hilltown, Bucks Co., where she died; Rachel, unmarried, living in Horsham and Benjamin Kenderdine, of Upper Dublin, to whom this sketch especially refers. In January, 1844, he married Sarah Ann Sneden, of New York. Their children are Cornelia, wife of D. Jarrett Kirk, of Upper Dublin, and Thomas, who is unmarried, living at the Kenderdine homestead, in the same township, near the Horsham line.

CHAPTER LXXVI.

UPPER HANOVER TOWNSHIP.

IN the extreme northwestern part of the county is situated the township of Upper Hanover, bounded on the north by Lehigh, northwest by Berks, and east by Bucks Counties, south by New Hanover and Frederick, southeast by Marlborough and west by Douglas. Its greatest length is five and a half miles, greatest width four and a half miles, with an area of twenty-three square miles, or fourteen thousand seven hundred and sixty acres, having been reduced nearly two hundred acres by the erection of East Greenville into a borough, in 1875.

The surface is rolling and in some parts quite hilly. The soil is chiefly red shale. The Hosensack Hills, the highest elevation, commence near the Douglas line and extend across the whole northwestern part of the township at the distance of a mile from the Berks County line. They are covered with large boulders of granite, which are being split up, and furnish the best of material for building purposes. From the top of these hills splendid views of the valley on each side, with the hills beyond, are had, the view to the south being especially fine. Below, the valley expands and becomes a broad basin surrounded with hills, extending a distance of over six miles, nearly through the centre of which the Perkiomen Creek flows in a southern direction upwards of seven miles, and propels in this distance five grist-mills and four saw-mills. Hosensack, West Branch and Macoby Creeks are tributaries of this stream, the last-mentioned flowing through the eastern part of the township. They also furnish some water-power.

The Goshenhoppen and Green Lane turnpike extends to Treichlersville, Berks Co., and was completed in 1851. It passes on the ridge between the Perkiomen and Macoby Creeks, its elevation being such that persons driving along the road have a full view of the valley and surrounding hills. For about four miles this road is nearly level, and presents one of the most beautiful and attractive drives, with its succession of villages, farms, churches and fine scenery, that can be desired. The Gerysville and Sumneytown turnpike, finished in 1865, crosses the eastern angle of the township for two and a half miles, and another public road passes along the ridge between the Perkiomen and West Branch, known as the "Devil's Hole road." The Perkiomen Railroad has a course of upwards of five miles, with stations at Welker's, Hanover, Pennsburg, Palm and Hosensack. It was opened to Pennsburg in 1874, and in September of the following year to Emaus and the Lehigh Valley. Though so recently constructed, this improvement has already done much to develop this part of the county, formerly so remote from railroads. The post-offices are Pennsburg, Red Hill, Palm and Hillegass. The largest villages are Pennsburg, Palm, Kleinville and Hillegassville.

The population of Upper Hanover in 1800 was 738; in 1830, 1300; in 1850, 1741; in 1870, 2197; in 1880, 2408. The taxables in 1741 numbered 97; in 1828, 258; in 1858, 504; in 1875, 646; in 1884, 628. This township, which was a part of Hanover township, was formed before 1741, and for its early settlers the reader is referred to the article on New Hanover. Johann Frederick Hillegass, the ancestor of the numerous family of this name in this locality, arrived in the ship "William and Sarah" from Rotterdam in September, 1727. He had seven sons and three daughters; two of the former, Leopold and Adam, came over a few years later. Before 1734 we find that he took up a tract of one hundred and fifty acres of land here, on which he made the first improvement. Isaac and John Klein came from Germany in 1736, and the Kleins of this locality are probably their descendants. Tobias Hartranft in 1742 took up a patent of one hundred and thirty acres of land from the proprietaries.

The First Grist-Mill on the Upper Perkiomen.—The following data of an ancient and interesting character, furnished by Philip Super, Esq., would seem to fix with reasonable certainty the claim of Upper Hanover to the oldest grist-mill on the Upper Perkiomen. Considering the importance attached to improvements of this character in the days of first settlements, the expensiveness of machinery, the importation from Europe of mill-stones, and their transportation on wagons from Philadelphia, over roads that were little more than cartways or bridle-paths, it becomes a matter of historical interest to fix as near as possible the early location of those establishments which supplied flour to the first bread-winners of the valley.

"To-day, date y^e 6th February, 1738 to '39, an agreement has been made between Geo. Groner and Frederick Hillegass, in Upper Hanover township; above-named George Groner has sold his mill and the land to it from the white-oak tree down to where the stakes are set to Robert Thomas' line, and along with it the crow-bar, two hatchets, and one broad axe, and the half-bushel, and the toll and two hogheads, and all things nail fast; and George Groner promises that Frederick Hillegass shall have the right from Jacob Wissler's line down to the mill-privilege, with the mill race, one perch on this side and one perch on the other side, but the above-mentioned Hillegass must do him no damage; the above-mentioned Hillegass shall keep said George Groner clear of expenses that might be made on the certain land that he has sold to him and said Groner shall still have the privilege to grind in the mill till the first day of April, 1739, and the above-named Frederick Hillegass promises said George Groner to give for the mill and above-mentioned land 150 pound and one wagon, 80 pound on the 16th of November, and 25 pound on the 16th of November, 1740, and again 25 pound on the 16th of November, 1741, and further Frederick Hillegass promises to pay 20 pound on the 16th of November, in the year 1742, and the purchaser and seller promise to fulfill the above sale, as witness,

"JOHANNES HULS.

"PHILIP LABAR.

"FREDERICK HILLEGASS.

"GEORGE GRONER.

"[Seal.]"

"Articles of agreement made, indented, agreed and fully concluded on the twenty-third day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight and nine, between George Groner of Upper Hanover township and county of Philadelphia, yeoman, of the one part, and George Shenk, of the same place, husbandman, of the other part, witnesseth that the said George Groner for the consideration

of fifty-five pounds, current lawful money of Pennsylvania, the said George Groner hath bargained and sold, and doth bargain and sell, unto the said George Shenk all the improvements and work done upon a piece or tract of land that was bought of Lodowig Christian Sproegel some years ago, in the township above mentioned, situated on Macove creek, an improvement which Henry Roder hath improved and possessed some years ago, containing in one hundred and fifty acres of land, which has been surveyed to the said Groner and said Roder, doth except for a reserve of the said plantation for his heirs, execs., adms., or assigns one perch or pole of land upon one side of the mill-race, and one perch or pole upon the other side forever, for to mend the race, but the said Groner, his heirs, execs., adms., and assigns shall not mow any grass upon the said reserved land, and the said George Shenk, his heirs, execs., and adms., and assigns shall not make any fence without license within a perch or pole distance of the said race, and it is also agreed that the said Geo. Shenk, his heirs, execs. adms., or assigns shall keep the said George Groner, his heirs, execs., adms., or assigns harmless of any costs or charges or interests which could or should be demanded any time hereafter of the said tract or piece of land. As for the time performance, the both parties have interchangeably set their hands and seal in the 12th year of his Majesty's Reign, George the second, by the Grace of God, King of Great Brittain, &c., in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight and nine. N. B. —The said George Groner hath accepted the half crop of winter corn which is now sowed in the ground, which shall be divided next harvest upon the field.

"Sealed and delivered in the presence of us,

"LUDWIG BITTING.

"PETER WALSTEIN.

"GEORGE GRONER.

"GEORGE SHENK.

"[Seal.]"

These documents conclusively prove that there was a mill on the Makove Creek, in Upper Hanover township, before the 6th day of February, 1739.

Pennsburg is situated on the Green Lane and Goshenhoppen turnpike, and the station of the Perkiomen Railroad here is twenty-three miles from the Reading Junction, and forty-eight from Philadelphia. The greater part of the ground on which Pennsburg now stands was formerly owned by several brothers by the name of Heilig, and as each of these had built a house along the public road, which has since become the turnpike road, the place began to assume the appearance of a village, and people, in speaking of it, began to name it, some calling it by one name, and some by another, the greatest number speaking of it as Heiligtville. After much talking, a meeting was held at the store of Jacob Hillegass, Sr., on an evening in the beginning of the year 1843, for the purpose of deciding the question in dispute, at which three different names were proposed, viz.: Heiligtville, Pennsburg and Buchananville, this last after James Buchanan, who was then a Senator of the United States, and afterwards President. At this meeting it was agreed that the village should commence at the line of Frederick Hillegass' (later Thomas B. Hillegass') land at the south, and extend up the road to the upper line of land then owned by the heirs of James Ashmead, deceased, on the north, a distance of a mile and a half. There was no difficulty in fixing the boundaries, as each one was agreed that the village was destined to become an important place, and that it was therefore desirable to have plenty of ground to spread upon, and thus prevent the necessity of annexing more territory for a long

time to come. But when it came to agreeing upon a name, the unanimity of the meeting was at once broken up, the advocates of the different names becoming very much excited, and each vehemently insisting upon the adoption of his favorite name. It becoming evident, after a long discussion, that neither party could command a majority of the votes of the meeting for the name desired by it, a compromise was effected, by which it was agreed to adjourn the meeting for a week, and to invite all either in or out of the village who felt an interest in the matter to attend.

Notice of the adjourned meeting was accordingly published, and as each party had been busy in advocating its cause, the meeting proved large and enthusiastic. After another heated discussion the vote was finally taken, when the name of Pennsburg was adopted by a considerable majority over its competitors. The proceedings were ordered to be published in the *Bauern Freund*, at that time published in Sumneytown, and from thenceforth Pennsburg was the name under which the village has grown and prospered. At that time the village contained twelve houses scattered along the road, in one of which was a country store. It also had a blacksmith-shop, a carpenter-shop, and some out-buildings. The tavern was wanting. There had formerly been a tavern kept in the large two-story store building at the crossing of the Pottstown and Quakertown roads, but for want of patronage this had for several years been abandoned. It was not till the year 1847 that a tavern was again opened in the place, when Mr. George Graber put up the large two-story frame building, which was licensed the same year, and which has since been kept as a tavern by the name of the Pennsburg Hotel.

For many years before the village was named there was a post-office established and kept at a house in the lower end of the place, at present owned by Mr. Aaron Griesemer, which was called Upper Hanover post-office. At that time there was a weekly mail to and from Philadelphia, by which a person could with reasonable certainty count upon getting an answer to a letter sent to any part of the State in from two to four weeks. About the year 1840 the post-office was moved to the house before mentioned as having been a tavern, where it was kept till 1866, when it was moved to the store of Jacob Hillegass, Sr., where it is kept at present. The name of the post-office was changed to Pennsburg about the year 1850. The first improvement in mail service was a tri-weekly mail from Philadelphia to Hereford and return, established about twenty-five years ago, which passed through the village. Then came a daily mail over the same route, after which another daily mail was established from Pennsburg, by way of Quakertown, to Philadelphia and return. These services were kept up till the opening of the Perkiomen Railroad rendered a change necessary. At the present time the mail service consists of two daily mails from Pennsburg to

Philadelphia and return, one by the Perkiomen Railroad and the other by the way of Quakertown and the North Pennsylvania Railroad. A daily mail is made up from Pennsburg to Hereford, and a tri-weekly mail from Pennsburg, by way of Hillegassville, Pleasant Run, Douglas and Frederick, to New Hanover and return.

In 1851 a lodge of Independent Order of Odd-Fellows was opened in the village which now numbers one hundred and seventy-five members, and meets on Saturday evening of every week. An encampment of the same order has been established, which meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Pennsburg contains upwards of one hundred dwelling-houses, two potteries, two blacksmith-shops, one wheelwright-shop, one butcher-shop, two carpenter-shops, two cooper-shops, one fine school-house, one brick church (occupied jointly by a Lutheran and a Reformed congregation), a printing-office (at which the *Bauern Freund und Pennsburg Democrat* is published, also the *Perkiomen Valley Press*), a steam brick-yard where bricks are manufactured by machinery, a steam felloe manufactory, a large steam planing-mill and sash-factory and numerous out-buildings. There are in the place a hotel, a restaurant, two large country stores, a hardware and drug-store, a shoe manufactory employing a number of hands, and a tinware and stove-store. Several trades in addition to those enumerated are carried on in the place. William M. Stauffer began the manufacture of cigars here about 1870, and later John Dimmig, J. M. Keller and William M. Jacobs entered the business. About sixty persons are employed in this industry, and four millions of cigars are made annually. The Perkiomen Railroad Company have erected here a large and convenient depot, and have also put up a large frame engine-house, cattle-pen and the necessary sidings. Messrs. Hillegass & Mensch have opened a coal, lime and lumber-yard near the depot.

The railroad facilities enjoyed by this village have greatly increased the value of property. Streets are being opened, building-lots laid out, which, when offered for sale, command excellent prices, and the idea of those who named the place, "that it was to become the largest and most important town in the valley," is fast being realized.

Palm Station or village is situated on the Goshenhoppen and Green Lane turnpike, between two and three miles northwest of East Greenville. The main highway is here intersected by a cross-road leading to the Schwenkfeld meeting-house, and the Perkiomen Railroad passes within a few hundred yards of the turnpike. The village has its hotel, store, post-office and station, with mechanic industries and a number of dwellings, most of which appear to have been recently built. The village is pleasantly located near the base of the Hosensack Hills, and near where the Hosensack Creek empties into the head-waters of the Perkiomen. The surrounding country is well

improved, and the station is one of considerable importance to the community.

Kleinville, so named from two brothers by the name of Klein, who owned several farms in the vicinity, is nicely located on a straight and level piece of the turnpike road. It is a rather scattered village, containing about fifteen houses, most of which are neat and comfortable farm-houses, surrounded by the usual farm buildings. We here find the tavern, the store, blacksmith-shop, shoemaker-shop and several useful trades.

Hillegassville is divided into two parts, each of which is apparently about to set up for itself and to repudiate the old name. The upper part of the village consists of a hotel and several dwellings. The hotel was built about fifty years ago by George Hillegass, who died shortly after its erection. It then, with a large tract of land, passed into the hands of his sons, who, several years back, sold the hotel, with about eighty acres of land, to Henry N. Hevener. This part of the village is but a fourth of a mile from Hanover Station, on the Perkiomen Railroad, and Mr. Thomas B. Hillegass, the owner of the land on the north side of the public road leading from the hotel to the station, has laid out his front in building-lots, several of which have been sold to parties who intend to erect buildings thereon. The upper and lower parts of the village are divided by a tract of farm-land of more than a quarter of a mile in length, making the two parts of the village more than a quarter of a mile apart. Some years ago a post-office was established at a place called Red Hill, a hill on the turnpike road about a mile below Hillegassville. At that time a store was kept there, the proprietor of which selling out, and there being no other place for the post-office, it was removed to the store in the lower part of Hillegassville, which at once adopted the name of Red Hill. This part of the village was commenced in 1836 by Jacob A. Hillegass, now deceased, who in that year built a large store and dwelling-house and a large barn and out-houses, which were occupied in the spring of 1837. Subsequently he put up other buildings in the place. This part of the village contains about a dozen dwellings, a school-house belonging to Upper Hanover District, a blacksmith-shop, a tailor-shop, a cigar manufactory and other buildings. This is the last of the villages in the basin through which the Perkiomen, the Northwest Branch and the Macoby Creeks flow.

There are eleven public schools in Upper Hanover, including the independent school district of Pennsburg. The regular school term is five months, nine teachers (all male) being employed at a salary of thirty-two dollars per month. When Pennsburg was formed into an independent school district a large two-story brick school-house was erected at a cost of four thousand dollars, which is conveniently fitted up and is an ornament to the place. Two schools are organized in this building, for which two teachers, one

male and one female, are employed, the former at a salary of fifty dollars and the latter thirty-two dollars per month. The school term is six months. The entire number of pupils in attendance upon the public schools in the township is four hundred and sixty-six.

The number of taxables is 628; value of improved lands, \$1,805,970; value of unimproved lands, \$74,540; value of 540 horses, \$33,615; value of 1205 cattle, \$35,360; total value of property taxable for county purposes, \$1,511,705.

The following, from the mercantile appraiser's list of 1884, gives an accurate idea of the present business places in this township: Joseph B. Bechtel, live-stock; Frank Bachman, butcher; William Christman, live stock; William Diel, stoves; B. B. Emery, merchandise; M. K. Gilbert, merchandise; D. K. Graber & Brother, stock; S. P. Hillegas & Co., live-stock; M. H. Houch, merchandise; Hillegas & Heyner, flour and feed; J. G. Hillegas, lumber and coal; John G. Hillegas, flour and feed; William Hiestand, coal; William Hiestand, flour and feed; Charles Kentz, coal and feed; D. S. Kern, sewing-machines; Krause, Brother & Leshner, flour and feed; Milton Kern, butcher; John Kepler, flour and feed; Kline & Brother, flour and feed; S. G. Mensch, hardware; John Mack, merchandise; Wilson Ritter, live-stock; Jesse Rodenberger, live-stock; E. Senkle, butcher; F. S. Schelley, merchandise; J. F. Seasholtz, live-stock; M. Snyder, flour and feed; W. H. Trump, coal and lumber; W. H. Trump, flour and feed; Charles Void, boots and shoes; William A. Welker, merchandise; J. Yerger, flour and feed; C. A. Miller, butcher; Peter S. Renninger, live-stock; Henry Schwenk, live-stock; Henry Stahsel, truck and fruit; F. K. Walt, boots and shoes.

Reformed Church of Goshenhoppen.—About one mile west of East Greenville, and close to the east bank of the Perkiomen, stands the Reformed Church of New Goshenhoppen.¹

The reason of its location at this point was owing to the donation of six acres of land for graveyard purposes by John Henry Sproegel at the opening of the eighteenth century. It is impossible to fix the date of this benevolent act more definitely. It is known from the public entries that the Sproegel brothers entered the province of Pennsylvania as Hollanders, and that they were naturalized in 1705. By several purchases they acquired thirteen thousand acres of land, which was known for many years as the "Sproegel Manor." A part of the domain em-

braced Upper and New Hanover townships. Their homestead of six hundred acres lay in Pottsgrove. In the neighborhood of Pottstown, on the bank of the Schuylkill, the Sproegel burying-grounds are still to be seen. The six acres which were donated for burial purposes were given to the Reformed, Lutheran and Mennonite denominations, and were used by the several parties till quite a late period. Tradition establishes the German Reformed Church at New Goshenhoppen as early as 1716, but, adhering to the first church records, of which there is certain knowledge, it is only safe to date its organization from the opening of the book. In 1731 the following preface was written: "A Record of the names of the Fathers of Families who belong to the congregation at New Goshenhoppen."

Catalogue of names: John Steinman, Henry Gallman, John Bingeman, Joh. George Welker, Benedict Strohm, Philip Emmert, John Hut, Abraham Transu, Aredreas Graber, Philip Ried, George Mesz, John George Pfalsgraff, Jacob Fischer, Paul Staab, Wendel Wiandt, Herman Fischer, Conrad Colb, John Michael Roeder, John Michael Moll, Frederick Hillegass, John Bartholemaus Kucker, Michael Lutz, Andreas Loehr, George Mirtz, Michael Fabiani, Henry Jung, Philip Jacob Shellhammer, Loenhart Fnoz, Jacob Fnoz, Caspar Lamm, Caspar Holtzhauser, Michael Zimmerman, Baltasar Hut, Michael Lefy, Jacob Maurer, Frederick Maurer, Christian Fnoz, Frederick Pfanenbeker, Benedict Raderly, Valentine Griesemer, Lorentz Hartman, George Philip Dotder, Jacob Meyer, Daniel Lanar, Peter Walzer. Some of the emigrants whose names had been entered in this early church-roll had arrived prior to 1727. Quite a goodly number of this colony are still represented in the congregation by their posterity. Of these are especially to be noted the Hillegasses, Grabers, Molls, Reids, Griesemers, Welkers, Wiandts, Youngs, Maurers, Roeders, Pannebeckers, Kolbs, Fishers, Kuckers, Lefys, Moyers and others. The church at this time had a membership of about one hundred and thirty-five persons. The bulk of these original members had been to the Germanic churches what the Pilgrim Fathers were to the Puritans in America.

With these Pilgrim Fathers of the Reformed Church in the New World, we count the primitive members of the German Reformed congregation at New Goshenhoppen. Johann Heinrich Goetschy, who brought a number of Swiss to this country about the year 1731, is accredited with being the first minister of this congregation.

The pastors—Boehm, who had arrived in 1720, and Weiss, who piloted a colony of Palatinates in 1727 to Pennsylvania—doubtless installed Goetschy in his large field, the various points of which were Skipack, Old Goshenhoppen, Egypt, Maxatawny, Masillon, Oley, Bern, Tulpehocken, Great Swamp, Saucon, and here at New Goshenhoppen. Pastor Goetschy was a learned man, being familiar with the Holland,

¹ The region known as "Goshenhoppen" is a part of Perkiomen Valley, and comprises two sections,—Old and New Goshenhoppen. The division of the territory does not imply an earlier and later occupancy, since the whole was settled simultaneously; but that the southern portion (Old) was brought into note somewhat sooner than the northern part (New) in consequence of its proximity to Philadelphia. Since the date of the oldest record extant Goshenhoppen has been variously written, viz.: Quesohopen, Cossehoppe, Coshenhoppen, Coshahopin, Cowissahopen, Cossehoppe, Goshenhoppen.

German, Latin and Greek languages, and was a most diligent worker. His pastorate seems to have closed in 1739. It is not to be unmistakably inferred that Dominie Goetschy had really been the first pastor at New Goshenhoppen. All that can be declared is that he opened the church register in a regular way. Pastor Weiss may have been the pioneer and founder of the congregation, and he may have placed Pastor Goetschy in the field after an organization had been effected under his hand, for he was familiar with the whole Reformed field at that day, and subsequently became closely identified with this charge. Pastor Weiss was born at Stebbeck, in Necherthal, Germany, about 1700. He was educated at Heidelberg well and thoroughly, and licensed in 1725. He emigrated in 1727. Ministering in Philadelphia and visiting outlying points for the purpose of organizing congregations in various localities, such as Skippack especially, he returned to Holland in 1729, in company with Elder Reiff, of the latter point, to collect funds for church-building. In 1731, Dominie Weiss returned to America, Elder Reiff remaining abroad still longer. Instead of returning to Skippack, we find him operating in the State of New York from 1731-35, the reason for which being thus accounted for: The Rev. John Philip Boehm, who had emigrated in 1720, already had, as a schoolmaster, performed ministerial functions at the earnest solicitations of the people and flocks scattered over the province. Dominie Weiss could not endure such an irregular course. A long quarrel ensued between the two men and the several parties siding with them. Opposition organizations were forming. Weiss' trip to Holland was directly occasioned by a desire to gain funds for the church edifice at Skippack. Meanwhile Boehm was ordained, in the wake of which act a reconciliation was effected and the opposition ceased. Consequently Weiss sought another field on his return. In 1746 he returned to Pennsylvania, according to the records extant. He commenced his labors now at Goshenhoppen (New and Old) and Great Swamp, in Montgomery and Lehigh Counties (then Bucks), receiving an annual salary of forty pounds and continued in this charge until the day of his death, in 1763. His tomb is inclosed in the churchyard at New Goshenhoppen.

Comparing the roll of membership which Pastor Goetschy entered with that of Pastor Weiss, an addition of a number of emigrants is noticed, whose names were mingled with those of the primitive colony. Although they were all possessed of a religious mind and identified with the Christian Church in the Old World, it must not be forgotten that the Reformed colonies planting themselves over the province of Pennsylvania during the early period of its history were a chaotic body.

Many and severe were the trials of the zealous and cultured Dominie Weiss in organizing the masses into congregations. They were suspicious of ecclesiastical

enslavement and imposition above all things. When Pastor Weiss presented his ordination certificate in Latin they ignored it, and obliged him to secure a German copy, which they could themselves read, ere they confided in him. It was during Pastor Weiss' term that the six acres which John Henry Sproegel had originally donated as a burying-ground to the Reformed Lutheran and Mennonite denominations were increased by fifty acres and twenty-six perches. The purchase was effected in 1749, although the deed was not secured until February 23, 1796. The instrument was executed by Abraham Sniger and his wife, Anna, and Thomas Tresse and wife, Mary, who succeeded to the Sproegel estate, to Wendel Wieandt and John Schell, of the Reformed congregation, in trust. The Lutherans and Mennonites became joint owners with the Reformed.

The first church was accordingly a *Union Church*. In what year it was erected no record declares. The primitive log building may have been planted shortly after the organization of the congregation, in 1731. Perhaps the year 1744, during which the church in Old Goshenhoppen was built, may be taken as a good and a correct one. The Lutheran congregation sold out its right, in 1796, to the Reformed for ninety pounds. The Mennonites had erected for themselves a meeting-house in Washington township, Berks Co., in 1741. They, however, held a burying right until a very late day. The parsonage grounds, a tract of some fifty acres, were likewise appropriated to the use of the three Reformed congregations during Pastor Weiss' reign, in 1749-50. In 1834 the Old Goshenhoppen congregation seceded from the triune fellowship. In 1865 the remaining two congregations sold the parsonage to Mr. Jonas Welker, in whose possession it still remains.

The death of Pastor Weiss caused a break in the regular line of ministers likewise at New Goshenhoppen. The congregation had not been left wholly without a shepherd, the following persons having temporarily officiated: Jacob Reiss, a pastor almost unknown, who had been minister in charge at Indian Field and Tohickon from 1749-53. It is probable that he had not been a regular pastor after the year 1753. He died December 23, 1774. Another pastor was Philip Jacob Michael. Though a weaver by trade, he is said to have been a man of culture. He was the founder of Ziegel's church, and succeeded in gathering a series of congregations around himself near his home. Pastor Leydich had been the minister at Falconer Swamp and New Providence, in Montgomery County, a man in good repute and loyal to the church. He emigrated in the year 1748, from which time dates, likewise, his long and settled pastorate to the end of his life. Besides ministering faithfully to his own charge, he supplied, in seasons of emergencies, Upper Milford, Salzburg and New Goshenhoppen. Pastor John Theobald Faber was born in the Palatinate in 1739.

His early training and later preparation for the

office of the ministry had been of the highest order. He sailed for this country and landed at Philadelphia September 2, 1766. On the 24th of October of the same year he opened his pastorate as minister in the charge composed of the three congregations at New and Old Goshenhoppen and Great Swamp. He resided near Sumneytown, Montgomery Co., having found a home at Mr. Hiester's house. On the 7th of August, 1770, he was married to Miss Barbara Rose, of Reading, and after his marriage moved to the parsonage. For thirteen years his ministry in this field went on smoothly. In 1771 a new church was erected, and the inner life of the congregation near his home had especially revived. The Reformed Church at Lancaster had, at various times, extended a call to Pastor Weiss to that charge. His old charge unanimously desired to retain him as their pastor, but, notwithstanding, the thrice-repeated call led the Synod to urge him to make the change. He preached his farewell sermon at New Goshenhoppen October 6, 1779. It seems that the city of Lancaster contrasted unfavorably as against the quiet valley of Goshenhoppen in Pastor Faber's mind. In his correspondence with his former rural friends he betrayed a restlessness and frequently expressed his regret over the change he had made. Nor did things move on so smoothly in his new field, and he assured his wife and intimate friends that he would return to the lower counties by the first opportunity. After the lapse of three years the Indian Field charge, in Bucks County, Pa., became vacant. A call having been extended him, he promptly accepted it, and now he was within fifteen miles of his former home. He labored in Bucks County during two years, when he moved back into his first and favorite field. During his absence the Rev. Frederick Dellicker officiated at Goshenhoppen from 1781-84, and Rev. Frederick Wilhelm Vandersloot from 1784-86.

The reunion of Pastor Faber with his flock resulted well to both parties, but it was not of long continuance. At the close of a funeral sermon, preached on the 2d day of November, 1788, he became unconscious and in a short time breathed his last. Two days later his grave was dug within the walls of the church, beneath the pulpit. The elder Weiser had a memorial tablet placed over his remains, with an inscription corresponding to another similar one which he had also placed over the remains of the younger Faber's dust, likewise buried within the church, at the opposite side of the pulpit. For nearly one year after the sudden demise of Pastor Faber the Goshenhoppen flock was without a pastor. The neighboring ministers did all necessary services, but in 1789 the Rev. Nicholas Pomp commenced his ministry here and remained in charge till Johann Theobald Faber, Jr., had prepared himself to be his father's successor. John Theobald was in his eighteenth year (1789) when he entered upon his preparatory course for the holy ministry. In the early part of the year 1791

he was licensed, ordained and installed pastor of the charge. His return to the flock as pastor was a circumstance of much interest to all parties. In his introductory he did not fail to call attention to the peculiarly solemn position in which he found himself placed. The death of his beloved father occurring, as it were, in the very spot on which he then was speaking; his mouldering remains lying under his very feet; his youth and hasty preparations to become his sire's successor; the questionable propriety of becoming a prophet in his own country,—on all these points the young pastor delicately touched with much trembling and many tears. He was married to Mary Arndt, of Easton, Pa., in 1796, and then established himself in the parsonage, becoming fully his father's successor. He filled the pulpits in charge acceptably, the older members regarding him in the light of a dear son and at all times addressing him in words of encouragement and love. He wisely cared, too, for the young of his flocks, and gave himself no little concern for the maintenance of parochial schools. In consequence of some dissatisfaction arising, he resigned his charge, in 1807, for one in New Holland, Lancaster Co., Pa., after having served this people in the room of his father for the period of fifteen years.

The Rev. J. Albert C. Helffenstein succeeded to the pastorate. His first church record in the church register was made April 21, 1808, and his ministry extended over a period of two years and ten months. The Goshenhoppen charge was his first field of labor, he having been a licentiate fresh from his studies. Being a young man and somewhat inexperienced, as well as wholly unused to the ways of a rural people, he found himself ill at ease in his work here. Besides, the English language was his vernacular, which he was obliged to lay aside entirely among this people. Believing that a more congenial field had opened for him, and fully persuaded, too, that another shepherd could be chosen who might prove more efficient in this charge, he left for Carlisle, Pa.

When Pastor Helffenstein left Goshenhoppen, in 1811, the choice of a successor fell at once upon Pastor Frederick Wilhelm Von der Sloom, Jr. The remembrance of the father, no doubt, contributed much towards the selection of the son. His father and grandfather having been men of liberal education, Frederick Wilhelm enjoyed many advantages over others in his own country. He had been prepared with a view of entering the legal profession, and it seems he had actually entered upon the active practice of his chosen calling for a few years prior to his emigration, which was in 1801. Coming thence to Philadelphia and Easton in search of his father, who had preceded him to America, he fell in with a farmer from Allen township, Northampton Co., who conducted him to the parsonage which the older Von der Sloom occupied. The meeting of father and son proved, in a measure, the narrative of the parable of the Prodigal Son over again. The elder exclaimed,

"This is my only beloved son from Germany!" The stepmother said, "And a fine-looking son he is." He remained with his father and prepared himself for the ministry. Later he visited the charge at Goshenhoppen, preached trial-sermons in the several pulpits, received and accepted a call and entered upon his duties in this locality in 1812-13. He served in the charge for a period of five years, supplying the Reformed congregation at Trappe, Montgomery Co., in addition to his regular duties.

By an inscrutable Providence, the younger Pastor Faber was led to follow still further in the foot-prints of the elder Faber. Both father and son had commenced their pastoral life among this people, and both had been called to separate charges, the one to Lancaster City, the other to Lancaster County, and so, too, had it been ordained that both should again be recalled to and end their histories among this people. When Pastor Von der Sloot had vacated the field, the minds of a large majority of the membership in his congregation favored the recalling of their former pastor. It was during this election of pastor that the Reformed congregation of Old Goshenhoppen became dissatisfied and severed its connection of eighty years' standing with the other churches of this charge. Its pulpit was supplied by the pastor over the charge in Falconer Swamp until the death of Pastor Faber, when it became identified as a factor in that pastoral charge. The congregation at Upper Milford was substituted in its room in Pastor Faber's field on the 22d day of October, 1820, and remained a part of his field to the close of his life. He entered upon the discharge of his duties on the 3d day of June, 1819, and continued his second pastorate over thirteen years, both periods swelling it to twenty-nine. His field of labor was still the same, though its complexion had vastly changed. The old house at the parsonage had been removed and a new two-storied stone building erected in its stead under Pastor Helffenstein. The few who remained of his father's time at the close of his first term had ended their days, and the companions of his youth and early ministry had become aged like himself. He was no longer "young" Faber, but "Father" Faber rather, and in his own mind he determined that, as he had been young and old in this field, his bones should lay beside the dust of his father, if it pleased God. Pastor Faber's history, like that of his sainted father, came suddenly and solemnly to a close. While in the middle of a funeral discourse he was taken suddenly ill and sank away. It was just forty-five years later than the time his father had received his final call to the eternal world. He lingered a few days, his death occurring on the 16th day of February, 1833. The congregation decided to lay his remains beside the dust of his father within the chancel. When the repairing of the second church was being carried forward, the pastor had the unpretending mark of Pastor Faber's tomb supplanted by an entablature.

Thus did the tombs of the two Fabers, under the right and left sides of the pulpit, seem as pillars. In the erection of the third church these sacred spots fell without the walls. The temple now standing excels all its predecessors, it is true, but the glory which these tombs conferred on the former the latter has not.

The next pastor over this charge was the Rev. Daniel Weiser, the youngest child of eleven born to Conrad and Barbara Weiser. In his youthful years he was employed as clerk in the service of his brother Conrad at Beavertown, Snyder Co., Pa. In his fourteenth year he enlisted as a volunteer in Nerr Middleworth's company and served in the war of 1812 for four months, after which he was discharged, the war having ended. For this act of youthful patriotism he was rewarded with one hundred and sixty acres of land in 1861, and a pension of twelve dollars per month in 1871 to the day of his death. His trade was that of a nailsmith during his first manhood. In his twenty-second year he commenced the study of theology under the Rev. James R. Riley, of Hagerstown, Md. He subsequently continued and completed his course under the Rev. Henry Yost Fries, of Mifflinsburg, Pa. He was licensed to preach the gospel in 1822 and ordained by the Synod in 1823. His first charge was composed of three congregations, located around Selinsgrove, Snyder Co., Pa., which subsequently embraced fourteen stations. Here he labored ten years. During this part of his ministry he married Lydia Ruth, of Milton, who died seven months later of yellow fever. Several years later he married Caroline Boyer, of Norristown, Pa. In 1833 he succeeded as pastor over the New Goshenhoppen and Great Swamp charge, over which he ministered as an active pastor for thirty years, serving during the last twelve years as superintendent of the Infant Sunday-school, occasional assistant to his son and temporary supply in vacant fields. Pastor Weiser continued healthy and vigorous to the last. On the 22d day of November, 1875, after complaining of a cold for several days, he was stricken with paralysis. After lingering for ten days, with conscious and unconscious intervals, he died December 2d, at the age of seventy-six years. He was buried on December 9th, at the New Goshenhoppen Reformed Church, amid many of his former members and friends. But two children survive him, a son and a daughter, Pastor Weiser had served but two charges during a ministerial life of fifty-two years. His first field embraced the church in which he had been baptized by the Lutheran pastor, Iasensky, and subsequently confirmed by the Reformed pastor, Isaac Gerhart. He was a self-made man, and for a man in his circumstances, or of his opportunities, we would pronounce him well-made. Franklin and Marshall College conferred the title of Doctor of Divinity upon him during the evening of his life.

Pastor Daniel Weiser had often said the next evil to a pastorate too brief seemed to him to be a pastor-

ate too long. As little as he approved of itinerating, so little did he favor the outliving of one's day. Accordingly, after laboring diligently and successfully through thirty years, his son was called to his side as assistant pastor, April, 1862. The younger Weiser had been serving his novitiate pastorate in and around Selinsgrove, Snyder Co., Pa., his native place, as it had likewise been the birth-place of the father, as well as his maiden field. On the 2d day of November, 1863, the Rev. C. Z. Weiser was elected pastor-in-chief of the Goshenhoppen charge by a literally unanimous vote. Thus for the third time in the history of this charge had father and son worn the same mantle in the same field,—the Von der Sloots, the Fabers and the Weisers. On the 21st day of August the installation services were held in the Great Swamp Church, the brethren Revs. A. J. G. Dubbs, R. A. Van Court and P. S. Fisher having been appointed the committee by Goshenhoppen Classis to attend to this duty. After a term of service, extending over twenty years, the present pastor has reason to be thankful for having had the labor of his heart and hand so largely blessed. The number of the several flocks has constantly increased by fair accessions, the guests at the altar now numbering near one thousand souls. He attributes the steady and healthy growth of the field, under God, to the long line of properly-equipped and very worthy pastors before or back of himself. In comparing the condition of the church to-day with that of more than a century ago striking contrasts are noticed. One hundred and fifty years ago Pastor Goetschy served in a diocese which extended from Skippack to Tulpehocken, from Goshenhoppen as his centre. Many laborers have entered the field, whilst New Goshenhoppen and Great Swamp have sustained their own shepherd exclusively since the advent of Pastor Daniel Weiser, in 1833. We doubt whether the whole territory numbered as many communicants as now surround the altar at New Goshenhoppen.

The church at New Goshenhoppen is a large brick edifice, built in the year 1857. It is one of the largest and most showy churches to be found outside of the cities and is the third church built at this place.

REV. CLEMENT Z. WEISER, D. D.—Dr. Weiser, the only survivor of three sons, was born in Union (now Snyder) County, Pa., which was also the native place of his brother, the late Dr. Daniel Weiser. He is the fourth removed from the renowned and historical Conrad Weiser. He graduated from old Marshall College in 1850, and then acted as German tutor, and subsequently as co-principal over the preparatory department for two years after the removal of the college to Lancaster. Just twenty-five years after graduation Franklin and Marshall College conferred upon him the meritorious title of Doctor of Divinity. He was called to his native place as pastor, and so also was his father, it

being the first field of labor for both. Serving in this field as pastor from the time of his ordination, in 1855, he was called as an assistant to his father in Goshenhoppen, Montgomery Co., where he has now lived seventeen years. A fact worthy of note is that Dr. Weiser began his pastoral duties where his father did, and closely followed in his footsteps, each serving but two charges. The charge he now holds has quite a history, and has on three different occasions been served by father and son,—first, by Pastors Vander-sloot, Sr. and Jr.; second, by Pastors John Theobald Faber, Sr. and Jr.; third, by Dr. Weiser and his son. The congregations at Lancaster, Philadelphia and at several other points placed calls in the hands of Dr. Weiser for his consideration, but he invariably refused to leave his country parish. Here his spare time is zealously devoted to general literature and study. His pen is not idle, and whatever time is allowed him from his pastoral duties is used in the preparation of articles for the *Messenger*, *Guardian*, *Hausfreund*, *Reformed Quarterly Review* and other publications. Among his literary productions is a "Life of Conrad Weiser." He also devotes much time to the aiding of churches and Sunday-schools by the delivery of lectures. Dr. Weiser stands high in the councils of his church, is much esteemed for his good qualities of mind and heart by his brethren in the ministry, and dearly loved by the people of his congregation. As a man fully equipped for the work and the field of work of his choice, the church cannot, perhaps, show many as his equal and none as his superior. Dr. Weiser has been since 1874 a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. On the occasion of the celebration of the Centennial of Montgomery County he was honored by an invitation to deliver the Centennial oration. He is chaplain of the Sixth Regiment National Guards of Pennsylvania. Dr. Weiser was, in 1859, married to Louisa C., daughter of Judge I. Gutelius, of Mifflinburg, Union Co., Pa. Their children are three sons and a grown daughter, all deceased.

OFFICERS OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL AT NEW GOSHENHOPPEN, 1840–80.

Superintendents.—Rev. Daniel Weiser, 1841–46; Henry Dotts, 1846–49; Charles Hillegass, 1849–55; John F. Gerhard, 1855–59; Jonathan Gery, 1859–60; John F. Gerhard, 1860–63; Jesse D. Pannepacker, 1863–71; George Deisher, 1871–74; Rev. C. Z. Weiser, D.D., 1874–80; Professor C. S. Wieand, A.M., 1880, etc.

Assistant Superintendents.—Philip Super, Esq., 1841–44; Lewis Masteller, 1844–46; Rev. Daniel Weiser, 1846–49; Lewis Masteller, 1849–50; John F. Gerhard, 1850–55; William Trippe Cramer, 1855–56; Rev. Daniel Weiser, 1856–57; Charles Hillegass, 1857–58; William Trippe Cramer, 1858–59; Rev. Daniel Weiser, 1859–60; Henry L. Gerhard, 1860–82; Rev. C. Z. Weiser, D.D., 1862–64; Reuben Masteller, 1864–65; Jonathan Gery, 1865–66; Abraham Welker,



C. L. Warren

1866-73; William H. Kehl, 1873-75; Professor C. S. Wieand, A.M., 1875-80.

Treasurers.—Lewis Masteller, 1841-49; John F. Gerhard, 1849-75; Adam J. Dimmig, 1875-81.

Secretaries.—Charles Hillegass, 1841-49; Mahlon Hillegass, 1849-55; Charles Hillegass, 1855-57; Mahlon Hillegass, 1857-81.

Assistant Secretaries.—Benjamin Gery, 1866-70; James D. Bobb, 1868-74; Mrs. Mahlon Hillegass, 1870-74; William H. Steltz, 1874-81.

Librarians.—Jonathan Gery, 1863-65; James D. Bobb, 1865-68; Nathaniel R. Reed, 1868-69; Ambrose E. Roeder, 1869-81; George F. Hoot, 1876-81.

Chorister.—Mahlon J. Gerhart, 1869-81.

Collectors.—Nathaniel Deisher, 1869-73; Charles Kehl, 1873-80; Charles L. Fluck, 1880-81.

Sunday-School Paper Agent.—Tobias Fried, 1876-81.

Infant Sunday-School.—1865-70: Superintendent, Rev. D. Weiser, D.D.; Assistant Superintendents, Mrs. Maria Hillegass, Mrs. Elizabeth Deisher, Mr. Samuel Roeder, S. M. Beysher (chorister). 1870-73: Superintendent, H. E. E. Roeder; Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Maria Hillegass, Mrs. Deisher, T. K. Gerhart, E. H. Steltz (chorister), W. Krause, D. Dimmig. 1873 to date: Superintendent, Mrs. C. Z. Weiser; Assistant Superintendents, Mrs. M. Bobb, Mrs. M. Roeder, D. Dimmig, T. K. Gerhart, M. J. Gerhart (chorister), F. L. Fluck (assistant chorister).¹

The New Goshenhoppen Lutheran Church, commonly called the "Six-Cornered Church," is about a mile east of the village of Pennsburg. It is a large and handsome stone building, surmounted with a tall steeple, and constitutes one of the land-marks of the valley.

The congregation is probably as old, or nearly so, as the Reformed congregation, it having had part with said congregation in the burial-ground and having buried its dead there till it sold its claim to the Reformed Church, in 1796. The exact date at which the congregation was organized is uncertain, but that it was previous to the year 1739 is shown by the church record, which states that in that year Johann Jacob Birkenstock was installed as pastor of the congregation. At the spot where the present church stands formerly stood an old log church. When it was built is uncertain, but it was probably in the beginning of the last century. An old member of the congregation states that he had often heard his forefathers say that at the time this log church was built Indians were still plenty in the valley.

This church stood till 1803, when the congregation resolved to build a new one of stone. The old one was torn down and sold, the purchaser using the best logs in the erection of a house which is still standing. Rev. F. W. Geissenheiner, who was the pastor of the congregation, and who was afterwards widely

known as Dr. Geissenheiner, was requested to furnish a plan for the new church. This he willingly did, but unfortunately for the congregation, it came in his mind to furnish two plans,—one with a four-cornered building and one with six corners,—he, in the goodness of his heart, supposing that the congregation would be able to decide on one or the other of them. In this he was mistaken, as there immediately arose two parties in the congregation,—one for the four-cornered and one for the six-cornered plan. After much heat and contention, the six-cornered plan was finally adopted. The church was built with six corners, and has ever since been known as the "Six-Cornered Church." The six corners are caused by the building of an alcove, in which is placed the large organ of the church. In 1860-61 the large steeple, containing a bell weighing fifteen hundred pounds, was erected on the part forming the six corners.

The first pastor of the congregation, as has been said, was Johann Jacob Birkenstock, who served from 1739 to 1743. The second was Conrad Andrea, from 1743 to 1752. The third was Frederick Shultz, who had charge from 1752 till 1756. He was succeeded by Rev. Frederick Reis, who, in turn, was followed, in 1764, by G. Frederick Neimayer. In 1771, Conrad Sebastian Roeller took charge and was followed, in 1775, by Pastor Schwabach. After him came Pastor Dornapfel, who served the congregation till 1790. In this year Christian Esprich took the charge and remained there three years, when he was succeeded by Rev. Frederick Wilhelm Geissenheiner who took charge and served till 1807. Of the reception of this pastor by the congregation the following is told:

"When, in 1793, Pastor Esprich left the charge the congregation applied to Revs. Smith and Hellmuth, of Philadelphia, to procure them a pastor from Germany. The new pastor arrived safely on the 8th of December, 1793. He was a young man, apparently much younger than he really was, and wore a three-cornered hat. On Sunday morning he found the congregation, many of whom were old German emigrants from Oberwald, gathered in the old school-house to receive him. On his entrance many of them whispered together, 'What can that youth know, and what can he teach us.' They went from there to the old log church to hear his first sermon to them. The stripling was equal to the emergency, and as he proceeded in his sermon with an enthusiasm and pathos that struck deep into the hearts of his hearers, all eyes were turned upon him and he was listened to with deep attention. After the service the old men gathered around him and congratulated him, saying, 'This we did not expect of you.' Another difficulty now arose; the young preacher must have a home. Another meeting took place in the school-house, and the question went round, 'Who will take the pastor in his house?' On all sides came the answer, 'I don't want him; neither do I.' They could not agree what to do with him, till at last one of them made the proposal, 'We will draw straws, and the one who draws the longest must take the pastor in his house.' This was assented to, and one of the fathers of the church, named Reiter, drew the longest straw, and with it not only the pastor, but his future son-in-law, as some time afterwards Mr. Geissenheiner married one of his daughters."

The pastor left the congregation in 1807 and moved to Reading, being succeeded by the Rev. Jacob Miller, who had been his student. He remained till 1829, when he also moved to Reading. After Miller,

¹ C. Z. Weiser, D.D., Hist. of New Goshenhoppen Reformed Church, 1851.

on May 12, 1829, the Rev. Frederick Waage took charge of the congregation, of which he was pastor till 1870, when he was succeeded by his son, the Rev. O. F. Waage, the present pastor. Rev. Frederick Waage served the congregation over forty years, and only retired when his age prevented him from performing the hard work of his large charge.

On the evening of the 23d of August, 1884, closed the life of this venerable and highly-respected man. His long, active and devoted life rendered Pastor Waage's name one of the best known over Eastern Pennsylvania, as well as quite famous throughout the Lutheran Church, more especially so during the earlier history of his time and services. Cay Frederick Sophus Waage was born August 17, 1797, in the dukedom of Holstein, Denmark. At a remarkably early age he commenced his school-days, and from the primary, through the higher and classical institutions, he was promoted until he entered the university at Kiel. For six years he attended here, laying the foundation to a high degree of scholarship in later years attained. His stay at Kiel made him a familiar friend of Pastor Claus Harms, who became to him his ideal pastor and theologian. His picture hung on the walls of his admirer's study, his autograph was put under glass and inclosed in a frame of gilt, and Pastor Waage's whole life was tinged by the spirit of this man. When twenty-two years old, in 1819, in the month of June, the young student went to Hamburg for the purpose of sailing for America. In the ship "Milo" he was tossed about on the ocean for sixty-eight days, and landed in Philadelphia in the month of September. On the shores of this new world he met a Reformed clergyman, Rev. Jacob Wilhelm Dechant, who led the young German to the house of Rev. Frederick William Geissenheiner, a Lutheran minister of note, and under the roof of this pastor young Mr. Waage spent two years preparing for the ministry of the gospel. To this happy event Father Waage referred with great gratitude. In Chester County these two years were spent both in somewhat Americanizing himself and in waiting, since the rules of the church required that a certain time should elapse ere a foreigner could take orders.

In 1822, on the 27th of August, Mr. Waage became a licentiate, by order and permission of the Pennsylvania Lutheran Ministerium, during its sessions at Germantown, Pa. His ordination followed on the 10th of June, 1828, by authority of the Synod at Reading, Pa. He served his first charge as a licentiate, which consisted of the congregations at Trumbauerstown (Charlestown) and Flatland (Richlandtown), Bucks Co., Pa.

After a little more than four years he received a call to his second charge, spreading over parts of Northumberland, Columbia and Lycoming Counties. The points were Milton, Fulmer's, Muncy, Williamsport, Paradise, St. John's, St. James' and Black Hole Valley. Here he remained three years, and during

this period he was naturalized as an American citizen. In 1829, in the month of May, he was called to his third and last charge in this region. The New Goshenhoppen Lutheran, together with the congregation at Charlestown and Sheetz's church, formed a pastoral field. In 1836 he organized and added the church at Huber's, in Montgomery County; and in 1854 he established and joined Ridge Valley Church. In this unwieldy field Pastor Waage labored and toiled during a period of forty years. Adding his student service and his voluntary labors since his retirement, his pastoral history covers a full half-century.

Pastor Waage maintained independent views in religious matters. His personal life was singularly pure and Christian; he erected his own standard, and according to that lived and worked conscientiously. The large and growing family of this busy and thoughtful man led him to study the theory and practice of homœopathy for the benefit of his own house, and his skill and success soon went abroad in the charge and neighborhood. But "the strong man" fails and falls at last. Even the physician cannot heal himself always. Age and its inevitable colleagues came to him too, who had so long been hale and hearty. The evening of his life was spent in meditation and quiet acts of personal devotion in near communion with his sons. Father Waage died at the close of the week,—on Saturday evening,—as if to show that a full life had been well rounded off. In his death a spirit left the world matured for a higher life,—a man scholarly, educated, well-informed, conversant with men, of a poetical temperament and a believer in everlasting life.

The burial of Father Waage was largely attended, on the 27th of August, at his favorite "Six-Cornered" Church, in New Goshenhoppen. There were present clergymen of four denominations. Rev. Dr. A. R. Horne, of Allentown, preached a sermon in the German language, on the words found in Zechariah i. 5. Rev. Dr. E. Huber, of Philadelphia, followed with a discourse, likewise in German, based on the text found in Rev. xxii. 14. A biographical sketch was read by Rev. Dr. C. Z. Weiser, of the Reformed Church.

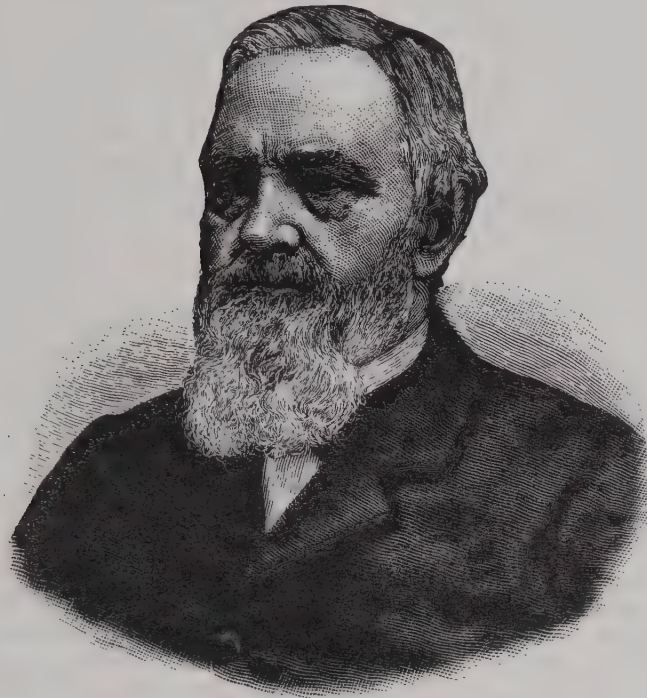
The hymn was announced by Rev. Dr. Wackernagel, of Allentown. The reading of the Scripture lesson (St. John's Gospel, 14th chapter) was attended to by Rev. Dr. Sadtler, president of Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pa. Rev. Jacob Maeschter, of the Schwenkfeldian Society, read the burial service. Rev. Moses Gottschall, of the Mennonite Church read the hymn, in addition to some remarks at the house. His remains were borne to the grave by six of his brethren,—Rev. A. L. Dechant, Rev. William Rath, Rev. S. K. Gross, Rev. Dr. Wackernagel, Rev. C. Z. Weiser and Rev. William B. Fox.

There were also present Revs. D. H. Reiter and Professor Mathew Richards, of the Lutheran Church, and Rev. Jacob Kehm, of the Reformed Church.

In Pennsburg we find a neat brick church built in 1855. It belongs to a congregation of Reformed and a congregation of Lutherans, and is occupied by them on alternate Sundays. The Reformed congregation was organized some five years before this church was built, and the Lutheran in 1855. The present pastor of the Reformed congregation is the Rev. A. L. Dechant, and of the Lutheran, the Rev. William B. Fox.

(Mrs. Charles Famous), Ann and one who died in infancy.

Philip was born on the 21st of February, 1815, in Philadelphia, where he resided until his seventeenth year. After a rudimentary education, he, at the age of fourteen, entered a hardware-store and remained thus employed for three years, when advantages were offered which induced his removal to Lederachsville, Lower Salford township, as clerk in a country store.



Philip Super

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

PHILIP SUPER.

Philip Super, the grandfather of Philip, the subject of this biography, came from Germany to America at an early date, and in 1788 purchased four hundred acres of land in Columbia County, Pa. His children were Hannah (Mrs. Ristine), Mary (Mrs. Ludwig Knoll), Sarah (Mrs. Block), Joseph, Philip and Jacob. The last of this number—born in 1774—was probably a native of Philadelphia, where his death occurred. He learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, which he conducted in Philadelphia until his death, when his wife succeeded to the business. He married Jane Brooks, of Delaware County, whose children were William, John, Sarah, Mary Ann (Mrs. Lewis W. Hampton), Hannah, Philip, Jane

In 1835 he removed to Pennsburg, in Upper Hanover township, and acted in the same capacity for Jacob Hillegass. His attention was next directed to the vocation of a teacher, which absorbed the following three years, when he was, in 1840, elected, as a Democrat, justice of the peace, in which office he was continued until 1875. His business was gradually merged into that of a conveyancer, while his familiarity with property in the township, together with his popularity and known integrity, caused him to be frequently selected as guardian and executor. To these responsible trusts his time and abilities have been mainly devoted for many years.

Squire Super was married, on the 3d of December, 1837, to Catherine, daughter of Henry Dotts, of Pennsburg, whose only child, William Henry, died in infancy. In 1884, Squire Super was elected county auditor. He is secretary of the Perkiomen Railroad

and the Goshenhoppen Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of Pennsburg, and secretary of the Green Lane and Goschenhoppen Turnpike Road Company, as also identified with all important movements of a business or social character in his township. His religious preferences are for the Lutheran Church, of which Mrs. Super is a member.

CHAPTER LXXVII.

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP.¹

THIS township is situated on the south side of the Schuylkill, and is bounded on the northwest, north and northeast by the same, on the northeast by Bridgeport, on the southeast by West Conshohocken and Lower Merion, on the south by the counties of Chester and Delaware, and on the southwest by Chester. Its greatest length is eight and a quarter miles, greatest width three and a half miles, and the area ten thousand two hundred acres, having been reduced, in 1851, four hundred and fifty acres by the erection of Bridgeport into a borough, and again, in 1874, about two hundred and ninety acres, by the erection of West Conshohocken. As will be observed on the map, its form is very irregular. The surface is rolling and the soil generally loam and limestone.

The principal elevations in Upper Merion are called Mount Joy, Red Hill, Flint Hill, North Valley Hill, Rebel Hill, and Conshohocken or Gulf Hill. Mount Joy is of a conical form, and is wooded to its top, and forms a beautiful feature in the landscape. It gave name to a manor that belonged to Letitia, daughter of William Penn. Tradition states that he gave the hill this name while on a visit to the neighborhood. It is supposed to be the highest eminence in Upper Merion in the vicinity of Valley Forge. In the time of the Revolution it was strongly fortified, and the remains of intrenchments are still visible on its top. Red Hill is an eminence somewhat over a mile southwest of Bridgeport. It is a well-known tradition, handed down by several families in the neighborhood, that two panthers were shot on it in the time of the early settlement. The Conshohocken or Gulf Hill is a long, narrow range that runs a great way into Chester County; it is a continuation of Edge Hill, which crosses the Schuylkill at Spring Mill, and extends east and west. Nowhere in Montgomery County, on its south side, are iron-ore, limestone or marble found. Geologically speaking, it forms a narrow belt of the primary rocks, with gneiss and talcon slate. The name of Gulf Hill has only been applied in this vicinity from the deep, narrow passage of Gulf Creek through it in its course to the Schuylkill. This natural curiosity will be subsequently described. The

North Valley Hill is a range following the Schuylkill, and commences a short distance above Bridgeport. It is only of moderate elevation, and is the highest between Port Kennedy and Valley Forge. Rebel Hill is just outside of the borough line of West Conshohocken, and between the Township Line road and Gulf Creek.

Probably one of the most fertile tracts of land in Montgomery County is that portion of the township lying along the Schuylkill, between Bridgeport and Gulf Creek, and extending west for about a mile and a half. Within this space limestone and iron-ore are obtained in abundance, and the stranger views with regret the disfigurements occasioned in obtaining these materials from such beautiful and productive fields. Indeed, in few neighborhoods has nature been so lavish of her choicest gifts. The soil is a loose loam, nearly level on its surface, and so free from stones that no country can produce, probably, any land of easier cultivation. The Swedes, in taking up and settling this tract, showed considerable foresight as to its future importance. In proceeding along the Schuylkill Canal from Bridgeport to Port Kennedy the land is chiefly cultivated to the river, with an occasional margin of trees, making it a shady and agreeable walk.

When we come to consider its size, this is not a well-watered township. The streams do not rise from many springs, and are, therefore, too weak to furnish much valuable water-power. Elliott's Run, by some called Crow Creek, rises from two branches near the Chester County line, is three and a half miles in length and propels only a saw-mill near its mouth. Frog Run, two and a half miles long, and Matsunk, a smaller stream, and both emptying into the Schuylkill below Swedesburg, propel no mills. Mashilmac Creek rises in Chester County, and, after a course of about two miles, empties into the Schuylkill at the Catfish Locks, below Port Kennedy. For its length it is a pretty strong stream, and, on account of rising from several large springs, is not liable to be affected by drought or cold weather. Near its mouth it turns a grist-mill. The largest and most important stream is Gulf Creek, in the southeast part, near the Lower Merion line. It is a rapid stream, which rises in Delaware County, and, after a course of nearly four miles, empties into the Schuylkill at West Conshohocken, about half a mile above the Matson's Ford bridge, furnishing power to several cotton and woolen-mills. The East Valley Creek, for the distance of a mile, forms the western boundary of the township and propels a paper-mill. The aforesaid furnish all the water-power and are much the largest streams. There is a fine spring at Port Kennedy and several near Bridgeport.

The wealth that the inhabitants of Upper Merion derive from its mines and quarries is probably not exceeded by that of any other township in the county. It contains three large furnaces for the manufacture of iron,—one at Port Kennedy and the other two on

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

the Schuylkill, a mile below Bridgeport. The ore is obtained in considerable quantities in the vicinity of Valley Forge, Gulf Mills and King of Prussia. It can be safely estimated that one-fifth of the area of the township abounds more or less in this mineral, which has been pretty extensively worked in the past thirty-five years.

This township is noted for the manufacture and quality of its lime. The limestone belt crosses the Schuylkill at and below Swedesburg, and has an average breadth of a mile, running in a western direction into Chester County. Its length in Upper Merion is nearly six miles. The marble prevails on its southern edge, and on its northern line the softer limestone. It has been satisfactorily ascertained that the lime made from its northern side is the best. The quarries of William B. Rambo, near Swedesburg, and those at Port Kennedy have this position: While approaching the opposite edge, it increases in hardness till it terminates in white marble, which merges into the still harder blue marble. This limestone is placed in the primitive formation, and, as may be supposed from the aforesaid remarks, is by no means uniform in its quality, some of its beds yielding lime of much greater purity than others. But, taken collectively, no lime in the United States surpasses it, especially for mechanical purposes. Mr. Trego says, in his "Geography,"—

"It is scarcely possible to form an estimate of the incalculable advantages derived by Pennsylvania from the limestones so extensively diffused throughout the State. They impart fertility to the soil wherever found; they are used as a building-stone for houses, barns, bridges, canal-locks, etc., and they constitute an indispensable article of use in our furnaces for smelting iron-ores. When burned into lime they yield a necessary ingredient in the mortar for stone-masons, bricklayers, plasterers, for whitewashing, and for several purposes in the manufactures and the arts. But it is from the benefits derived to our agriculture, from the use of lime as a manure for the soil, that our State is destined to be most enriched by this important article of her productions. At several points on our canals and railroads vast quantities of limestone are quarried and transported to places where it is required for use, and from the rapidly increasing demand, it is becoming a considerable item in the tolls upon our public works."

Oldmixon, in his "British Empire in America," published in 1708, speaks of limestone being procured quite early in America, on Letitia Penn's manor of Mount Joy. This probably may have been near the present Swedesburg. The census of 1840 values the lime then manufactured in Upper Merion at \$74,772, or about one-third of that produced in the entire county. This business, of course, has since greatly increased through the additional facilities afforded for its transportation. It is said that Port Kennedy, for the year ending with June 1, 1857, exported lime to the value of \$140,000. The whole county is represented in 1840 to have produced lime to the amount of \$236,162. This sum, we have no doubt, is now surpassed in value by Upper Merion alone.

Marble is composed of crystalized carbonate of lime, and the two are always found combined, more or less, together. The marble worked in this town-

ship runs in a long, narrow, perpendicular seam, extending down, no doubt, to a considerable depth. It is said the deeper it is obtained the better is its quality. What was formerly and so long known as Henderson's quarry, is now owned and worked by Daniel O. Hitner. It is situated two miles southwest of Bridgeport and was worked before 1782. There is here an extensive steam mill for sawing marble. The greatest depth reached in obtaining it is considerably over one hundred feet. Thirty-five hands were employed in the mill and quarry in 1858. Immense quantities have been taken out here within the last forty-six years. A portion of the material used in the construction of Girard College was from this place. The depth made could not have been reached without the aid of several pumps propelled by steam. The ingress of water is a serious obstacle to the successful working of marble quarries, entailing considerable expense. That there is an abundance of this beautiful material in this township there is no doubt, and it is believed, as the demand for it increases, this difficulty may be the easier prevented. About half a mile from the King of Prussia, and near the Chester Valley Railroad, is the quarry formerly worked by J. Brooke, in 1858 to 1876 or later by Derr & Adams, but now by Schweyer & Leiss. There is also here a steam saw-mill. These two are the only marble-quarries that have been worked in the township. The census of 1840 states that nine men were employed in the business, producing marble to the amount of six thousand seven hundred and sixty dollars.

According to the census of 1800, its population was 993; in 1840, 2804; and in 1880, 3275. The real estate and personal property for taxable purposes was valued in 1882 at \$1,935,840 with 745 taxables, averaging \$2598. In May, 1876, licenses were issued to three inns, eight stores, three coal-yards and three dealers in flour and feed. In 1858 it contained three inns, nine stores, four grist-mills, three saw-mills, three iron furnaces, two marble-mills and seven or eight cotton and woolen manufactories. The census of 1850 returned 624 houses and 108 farms; in 1785, three inns, four grist-mills, three saw-mills, one forge and a fulling-mill, three churches,—one Episcopal, a Presbyterian and a Christian Baptist,—besides a Union Chapel. The public schools for the year ending June 1, 1883, were twelve, open ten months, with four hundred and eighteen enrolled pupils. In 1857 it contained nine schools, with ten teachers, and attended by five hundred and sixty-six scholars. In the latter year seven of the teachers were males; now they are all females. The post-offices are four, located at Port Kennedy, King of Prussia, Gulf Mills and Abrams. From what is stated, it will be observed that, independent of the production of lime, marble, iron and brick, this township is also extensively engaged in other manufactures.

In the way of public improvements, Upper Merion has been pretty well provided, and they have tended

still further to develop its resources. Besides the canal, the railroad runs its entire length on the Schuylkill, a distance of nine miles, with stations at Swedeland, Merion, Port Kennedy and Valley Forge. The Chester Valley Railroad, which was finished in 1853, extends through its entire width from east to west, about four miles, with stations at King of Prussia, Henderson and Shainline. It commences at Bridgeport, and connects with the Pennsylvania Railroad at Downingtown. There are, besides, six or seven short branches erected by private enterprise, leading from mines and quarries towards the Schuylkill, two of which are over a mile in length. A turnpike extends from Bridgeport to the King of Prussia, three miles, finished in 1853.

Swedesburg is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Schuylkill, adjoining the eastern line of Bridgeport. It contains about sixty-five houses, chiefly two-story frame, a church, school-house, several stores and a blacksmith and wheelwright-shops. The census of 1850 gives it three hundred and eighty-eight inhabitants, and that of 1870 three hundred and eighty-six. This place has chiefly grown up since 1840, and owes much of its prosperity to the manufacturing business carried on in its neighborhood. About half a mile below this village William B. Rambo carries on the lime business quite extensively, employing here in his operations eighty hands. He uses his own boats, some of which are calculated for sailing on the rivers and bays as well as along the coast and up the Schuylkill to the coal regions. To facilitate its shipment he has a railroad from his quarries and kilns to the river, half a mile in length. Considerable of his lime is sent to New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland.

Matsunk is the name of a village that has chiefly grown up since 1846, and is situated on a small stream of the same name, near the Schuylkill, about a mile below Swedesburg. It contains about forty houses, several of which are handsome residences, surrounded with fine, shady lawns and gardens and inclosed with iron railing. In 1858 the place had increased to nineteen dwelling-houses. The extensive works of the Swede Iron Company are here, comprising two large furnaces, a railroad leading from the mines to the furnaces, a mile in length, numerous out-buildings and a tract of land, on which there is an abundance of iron-ore and limestone of the best quality. The total cost of the improvements here is stated to have been considerably over two hundred thousand dollars. A woolen-factory has also been in operation here for some time. Swedeland post-office was established here before 1876, but several years ago was merged with the one at Bridgeport. The station bears the aforesaid name. The land in this vicinity is of superior quality and ranks with the best in the county.

King of Prussia is situated near the centre of the township, at the intersection of the Gulf and State roads. This name was derived more than a century ago from an inn here, kept by John Elliott in 1786. It

contains a public-house, store, post-office, library, blacksmith and wheelwright-shops and seven houses. Five roads centre here, one of which was turnpiked in 1852 to Bridgeport. The stone bridge over Elliott's Run was built in 1835. The township elections have been held here for some time. In 1871 two districts were formed, the Upper since voting here. The post-office, established before 1827, and originally called Reesville, was changed previous to 1851 to its present name. The public library was founded in 1852, and contains three thousand volumes. Miss Ella Thomas is librarian. Charles J. Elliott, one of its founders and first librarian, quite a promising young man, died here February 24, 1861, aged thirty-six years.

Gulf Mills is located at the intersection of the Gulf road with Gulf Creek, where an inn was kept in 1786 by John Roberts. It had for its sign the "Bird-in-Hand," and that is still the popular name of the place. Including Mechanicsville, only half a mile distant, it may be estimated to contain about fifty houses. It is a business place, containing several woolen-mills, saw and planing-mill, besides other establishments, also an inn, store, post-office and a church. The Bird-in-Hand post-office was located here before 1827, and retained this name until 1830, when it was changed to its present one of Gulf Mills. The Christian Baptists, or Plummerites, erected in 1835 a one-story stone meeting-house, about one-quarter of a mile southeast from Gulf Mills. Among the pastors who have served the church are the Revs. Godfrey Hawk, Charles Plummer, — Noble, Jacob Rodenbaugh and John Conard, the present pastor, who has been in charge since 1870. George McFarland has for some time carried on here extensively the manufacture of woolen goods. The venerable stone bridge over Gulf Creek bears no date, but is supposed to have been erected before the Revolution. The elections for the Lower District of the township are held at the school-house at this place.

Merion Station is on the Reading Railroad, about two miles above Bridgeport, where Crow Creek empties into the Schuylkill. It contains a saw-mill, Union Chapel, school-house, five or six dwellings and a post-office, called Abrams. Port Kennedy and Valley Forge will be treated of in separate articles near the close of this chapter.

Gulf Hill rises immediately on the south side of the creek, opposite the village of Gulf Mills, is quite steep, and is wooded to the top. About three-quarters of a mile from this place a grist-mill is standing in a romantic situation, on the west side of the Gulf road, and to the antiquary is an object of interest. It was built in 1747, and is known as the "Old Gulf Mill." In 1858 it was owned by Rebecca Thomas, and now belongs to Henderson Supplee. This is probably the oldest mill now standing in Montgomery County, and, excepting some of its machinery, it is believed to have undergone no alteration since its erection. It is built of stone, and may yet with care

stand for centuries. It was, no doubt, in its day, considered a great affair. On William Scull's map of Pennsylvania published in 1770, the "Gulf Forge" is marked as being in this vicinity.

As we have now spoken of the name of Gulf being applied to a road, a creek, a hill, a mill, a forge, and a post-office, it is perhaps time that we inform the reader what this word implies, or rather how it originated. What is understood to be the Gulf is where the Gulf Creek passes through the Gulf Hill, and to effect a passage has cleft it to its base. The stream and the road by its side wind through it somewhat in the shape of an S, and at the narrowest part there is just room enough for both, the whole width not being more than forty feet. The hills on either side are pretty steep, and are covered with rocks, bushes and trees to their summits. The hill on the east side is about one hundred and fifty feet high, and on the west side of less elevation. Near the old Gulf Mill, on the south side of the entrance, a rock juts out at the road to an elevation of about fifteen feet, which has sheltered people from the rain. As this hill runs a considerable distance west of the Schuylkill, and as the road through it is perfectly level, it will at once appear obvious that, from the earliest period of the settlement above, this passage was of great advantage in passing to and from the city. Hence its name is mentioned from an early date. To be in such a place in the dreary hour of midnight, with the roar of the troubled waters among the rocks, and the gloom of the wood-covered gorge, is enough to arouse in the solitary traveler feelings of an unusual kind.

From Bridgeport to Valley Forge is six miles, and few walks in Pennsylvania are more interesting than that along the tow-path by the river for this distance. The towns, villages, manufactories and scenery on each side, at every turn of the river, present something new and beautiful, which, were we to describe it at length, would occupy too much of our space. A quarter of a mile below the Catfish Dam, and three miles above Bridgeport, is presented one of the most beautiful landscapes we remember seeing almost anywhere. If it is worth, as Thomas Jefferson has said, a voyage across the Atlantic to see the scenery of the Potomac at Harper's Ferry, then we say, it is, at least, worth traveling from Norristown, on any fine day, to this spot to view the scenery of the Schuylkill Valley. In standing at a certain point here and looking up the stream, the falls of the Catfish Dam are seen extending across the river, and about three-fourths of a mile beyond is seen nestled in the hills a portion of Port Kennedy, with its bridge; and still beyond, and for the background, in the centre, and as if springing from the river, the picturesque and fine wooded hill-tops of Valley Forge, four miles off—the whole forming such a combination of objects, so advantageously connected, as are seldom found in any one view. At the dam aforesaid are two locks,

placed side by side, which are called the Catfish Locks. These, as well as the dam, were built by the Navigation Company.

Upper and Lower Merion appear to have been originally one township called Merion, or rather by the early Welsh settlers Merioneth, after a county in North Wales. At what exact time it was divided has not been ascertained, but it must have been before 1714; for in this year we find the earliest mention in records of Upper Merion as a township. From Thomas Holme's map of original surveys, commenced in 1682, we learn that the upper half of the township was included in Letitia Penn's manor of Mount Joy, the middle portion in William Penn, Jr.'s, and the lower part, adjoining Lower Merion, in John Pennington and company's. The remaining portion of the manor lay in the adjoining township of Tredyffrin, in Chester County, and included in all seven thousand eight hundred acres. It was patented to his daughter by William Penn, 24th of Eighth Month, 1701, and he retained possession of it until 1736. The land belonging to John Pennington and company, it is probable, formed a part of the Welsh tract, which we know extended through a portion of the township into Chester County, comprising in the whole forty thousand acres, and of which mention was made in the history of Lower Merion. It was chiefly through this last great purchase that the original settlers were Welsh, and named it after a shire from whence many of them had come.

Although the Swedes had settled near the mouth of the Schuylkill in 1642, and four years later erected a church there, yet no evidence exists of their having located early anywhere within the present limits of the county. It has been recently ascertained that Peter Cox had made a purchase of land within the present limits of Upper Merion before 1702, and that Gunnar Rambo in said year had endeavored to secure a tract beside him. The Swedes came into the township about 1712, and settled on a large tract which they purchased from the Welsh, who had for some time preceded them. The names of these settlers were Mats Holstein, Gunnar Rambo, Peter Rambo, Peter Yocum and John Matson. They took up several hundred acres each, which lay from the present borough of Bridgeport down to the Lower Merion line, and back nearly two miles from the river. This tract, for fertility, is almost unequaled in Pennsylvania, and is still chiefly in the hands of their descendants, and comprises nearly one-fourth of the present area of the township. On this tract the names of Swedes' Ford, Swedes' Church, Swedesburg, Swedeland and Matson's Ford sufficiently indicate the presence of these settlers. Near the close of this subject some additional information will be given respecting those Swedish families.

The following possesses interest, being a list of settlers residing in Upper Merion in 1734, thirty-two in number, and with the amount of land re-

turned as belonging to each: Mats Holstein, 252 acres; Hugh Hughs, 200; Morris Edwards, 150; Owen Thomas, 100; Griffith Phillips, 50; John Moor, 150; Owen Jones, 100; Thomas Jenkins, 100; John David, 100; Alexander Henderson, 100; Mounce Rambo, 100; John Rambo, 100; Gabriel Rambo, 150; Elias Rambo, 150; Peter Yocum, 50; Andrew Supplee, 50; Hugh Williams, 100; Benjamin Davis, 100; John Sturgis, 100; Isaac Rees, 100; Richard Bevan, 200; David James, 100; William Rees, 150; Edward Roberts, 100; Mathew Roberts, 100; William George, 150; Thomas Rees, 100; Harry Griffith, 100; Hannah Jones, 100; Griffith Rees, 50; David Lewis, 100; and Jones Rees, 40 acres. Of this list, it will be observed that nearly two-thirds are Welsh. In the assessment of 1780, out of one hundred and thirty-eight names, but very little over one-fourth are found to be of the aforesaid origin. This denotes a considerable diminution in the Welsh element during a period of forty-six years. Within the past fifty years the Irish population has increased through the encouragement given them as laborers in the lime, marble and iron industries. Descendants and land-holders of the name of Holstein, Hughes, Moore, David, Henderson, Rambo, Supplee, Jones, Roberts, Griffith, Phillips, Thomas and Davis are found scattered over the township, many of whom still occupy their ancestral tracts.

Mathew Roberts was the son of John Roberts, one of the early settlers of Lower Merion, who removed to the Swamp Vlass farm, near the present King of Prussia, which had been bequeathed to him by his father about 1727. His son Jonathan was in the Colonial Assembly, and elected to Congress in 1790, besides holding other positions. The latter was the father of Jonathan Roberts, of the United States Senate. Richard Bevan, mentioned in the list of 1734, advertises in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of July 24, 1751, that he has for sale, "near the Gulf Mill, a likely negro man thirty years of age, fit for town or country business. Also a negro girl about fifteen years of age." Evan Jones was appointed by the county commissioners collector of taxes in the township for 1719, the amount assessed being £5 12s. 8d. In 1742, Thomas Jones was collector, Peter Holston in 1780 and the following year George George. John Johnson was appointed constable in 1767, and Isaac Hughes assessor for 1780.

A road was laid out from Whiteland, in Chester County, in 1723, to the Swedes' Ford, now the borough of Bridgeport, by way of the present King of Prussia, thus showing that the travel at an early period must have been considerable in this direction. The Gulf road, as it is called, leading from Valley Forge through the King of Prussia and the Gulf Mills towards the city, is denoted on Lewis Evans' map of the Middle Colonies, published in 1749, thus clearly indicating that this, too, was an early highway. Along this road may be seen the Penn mile-stones, as they are called,

having on one side the distance to the city and on the other the Penn coat-of-arms. The uppermost one now standing is three miles below Valley Forge, known from its figures as the eighteenth milestone. Were the proper researches made, we entertain no doubt but that this road would be found to possess an interesting history, which, it is hoped, some diligent antiquary will take in hand.

The first school-house built by the Welsh in the township was in Matthew Roberts' woods, about 1740, on the present State road, not half a mile east of the King of Prussia. It was a log structure and lasted some fifty years, when a stone building was erected to take its place on the land of William Cleaver, about one hundred yards from the former, who deeded half an acre to trustees in 1810, when they were incorporated. Through a bequest, these trustees erected the present edifice, containing a school-room, library and hall. Another school-house stood on the Gulf road, near the Lower Merion line, where Jonathan Roberts went to school in 1785 and part of the following year to Edward Ferris, walking the distance of four miles from his father's house. This was known as the Gulf School, and has been continued down to this day. His son, William B. Roberts, now in advanced years, retains in his possession some of the school-books used by his great-grandfather, Mathew Roberts, about 1708-14.

The Revolutionary history of Upper Merion is not without interest, for nearly all the leading events connected with Valley Forge happened within its limits. On the 11th of December, 1778, Washington, with his army, left Whitemarsh, and on the afternoon of the 13th crossed at Swedes' Ford and proceeded towards the Gulf and the vicinity of the King of Prussia, where they remained until the 19th, when they arrived at Valley Forge, where they were to remain until the following 18th day of June, exactly six months. Owing to the lateness of the season they at once set about building huts to shelter them from the rigors of winter. General Potter, who had been stationed at the Gulf in November, now marched towards Swedes' Ford and joined Washington's army, when a court-martial was held to try such men as threw away their arms and equipments for the purpose of facilitating their escape in the late attack made on them at the Gulf by the British from the city. A number were sentenced to be publicly whipped, which was carried into effect, and produced not a little excitement in the camp. Although at some distance from Philadelphia, the citizens suffered considerably from the marauding expeditions of the British army. The assessor appointed for this purpose rated the damages done by them in Upper Merion at £1517. Among the claimants may be mentioned Isaac Matson, who was allowed £64; Peter Matson, £26; Cephas Bartleson, £127; Benjamin Eastburn, £119; John Johnson, £269; and Isaac Knight, £340.

From the assessment of Upper Merion in 1780 we

are enabled to obtain some additional information. Abraham Griffith carried on the grist-mill belonging to Jacob Walker and Samuel Kelly, to which was attached one hundred and twenty-five acres of land; on Isaac Potts' estate of thirty-five acres, at Valley Forge, was a grist and saw-mill; George George had a saw-mill and four hundred and seventy acres; John Roberts, a mill and twenty-three acres, now known as the old Gulf Mill, carried on in the beginning of this century by Richard Roberts; William Gabb, a mill which we are unable to locate; Amos Willets, a fulling-mill, probably on Gulf Creek. Inns were kept by James Barry, George Savage and Cephas Bartleson. The latter had this year rented the "Swedes' Ford" tavern from Peter Holstein. John Pugh, probably at the present Gulf Mills, is the only store-keeper mentioned.

Hon. Jonathan Roberts was a native and resident of this township, and died in July, 1854, at the advanced age of eighty-three years, and at his request was buried on a part of his place called "Red Hill," where he had appropriated two acres of land for the poor of the neighborhood to bury their dead free of charge. Mr. Roberts was elected a member of Congress in 1811, and in February, 1814, was chosen a member of the United States Senate, which office he filled until 1821.

Port Kennedy.—The village of Port Kennedy is situated on the south bank of the Schuylkill, and is twenty-one miles from Philadelphia and four from Norristown. The country in its vicinity is rolling and the soil fertile. It is noted for the vast quantities of lime burned there and exported to other places. Through this business it owes its chief prosperity. In 1828 it was almost a waste, with nothing on it to attract attention but a fine spring of excellent water. In 1858 it contained one hotel, two stores, a furnace, church, school-house, blacksmith and wheelwright-shop and forty-two dwelling-houses. The census in 1850 returned four hundred and forty-nine inhabitants, and in 1870 five hundred and sixteen. We doubt the correctness of said enumeration; the number of houses is too small to warrant such a conclusion. From the hill on the road to Valley Forge, a short distance from the village, there is a fine prospect of the place and surrounding country, as well as of the Schuylkill for several miles down its course.

The furnace belongs to the Montgomery Iron Company, of which Abraham S. Patterson is president, Joseph J. Patterson secretary and treasurer, and John W. Eckman manager. It was commenced in 1854 and went into operation in 1856. It possesses one stack, fifty by fourteen feet, and two roasters for magnetic ores, added in 1880. The annual capacity is twelve thousand net tons of forge pig-iron, for which magnetic and hematite ores are equally used. A considerable portion of the ore is obtained in the vicinity. The First Presbyterian Church of Port Kennedy was organized in the summer of 1845, mostly

from members of the Great Valley Presbyterian Church, of Chester County. The corner-stone of the present church edifice was laid the same year, and the building was dedicated January 1, 1846, since which time it has been used without material change. The church, from the time of its organization until 1873, was in connection with the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church, and under the charge of the Rev. Henry S. Rodenbough. In 1873 the church called to the pastorate Charles Anderson, a recent graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and a licentiate of Burlington Presbytery. He was ordained and installed pastor in May, 1874, and served about one year and was succeeded by the Rev. Edward P. Howes, who served two years and resigned on account of ill health, since which time the church has had a stated supply,—Rev. Yates Hickey, for two years, and the present incumbent, the Rev. Belleville Roberts, of Norristown. The church has fifty-five members. The hotel, which is the only one in the place, is a large three-story stone building, upwards of forty feet square. It has an elevated position on the river's bank, and the Reading Railroad has a station near by. The Port Kennedy Bridge Company was incorporated by an act of Assembly passed March 9, 1846. It is a covered frame bridge, resting on three stone piers and is of sufficient width to admit of two wagons passing. It was not completed till the close of the year 1849. The post-office was established here before 1851. It is the lime business that has given this place its present importance, and probably in this respect it is not exceeded by any other in the valley of the Schuylkill. The lime manufactured is of superior quality, and most of it is shipped off by the canal to New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland; a considerable quantity is also sent to Philadelphia and New York. When we were here in August, 1858, three schooners, one sloop and a canal-boat were loading at the wharves. One of these, a schooner, was a neat and beautiful craft, and so symmetrical in form that one might have supposed that it had been intended rather as a pleasure-yacht than for the more useful purposes of trade. As the vessels, in order to reach this place from the city, have to pass under bridges, it becomes necessary for them to have falling masts, which are raised while loading.

According to the census of 1840, Upper Merion produced lime to the amount of seventy-four thousand seven hundred and seventy-two dollars. At this time Port Kennedy alone produces fully double that amount, thus showing that this business has greatly increased and will yet rise to much greater importance. The burning of lime is carried on here the most extensively by Andrew Blair & Co., by Mrs. Violetta, widow of Robinson Kennedy, and by Messrs. Hunter & Roberts. The business was carried on here very extensively for many years by the late John Kennedy, who died here September 4, 1877, aged sixty-one years. His kilns were the nearest to the village, and

in 1858 he had fourteen in operation, some of the largest containing as much as two thousand five hundred bushels, giving employment to sixty or seventy men. David R. Kennedy, brother of the aforesaid, and David Zook, at said date, were also extensively concerned in the business. Considerable limestone is also quarried here and sent off by navigation to the extensive furnaces at Phoenixville, six miles distant.

Alexander Kennedy, the founder of this place, and after whom it was called, was a native of Ireland and came to this country poor. He was first employed by a person of wealth in this vicinity. Through his industry and business qualifications he accumulated, in the course of years, a handsome fortune. The property on which this village is located belonged to Mordecai Moore, who died in 1803, at an advanced age. It was then purchased by Mr. Kennedy, who moved on it in the spring of 1805. He continued to reside here until in the fall of 1824, when he died at the age of about sixty-three years, and was interred at the Great Valley Presbyterian Church. He was a highly-respected and useful man, and his loss was lamented by a large circle of friends. He has four sons,—John and David R. Kennedy, who resided here, and became the principal property-holders of the village and vicinity; William, removed to Kent County, Md.; and Alexander, to East Pikeland, Chester Co. Before this village had attained its present size it was called by the less dignified name of "Kennedy's Hollow;" but time, the changer of all things, has transformed this uncouthness into its present more euphonious name.

In working in the limestone quarries here an extensive cavern was reached, which had an area equal to many of our largest public buildings. It contained a considerable number of stalactites of calcareous matter, some of which extended to the floor and formed several conical arches, with borders of variegated colors; also pyramidal columns of various sizes. This cavern, from the singularity of its chambers, was an object of considerable curiosity during the brief period it was open to visitors. A concert was held in one of its largest chambers on the 4th of July, 1846, at which several hundred persons were present. Its existence has now become only a matter of the past, for its walls have been quarried away these several years. No doubt it lay here concealed for ages, even before the creation of man himself, and his industry has only lately revealed and destroyed it in the process of the beneficial purpose of enriching his fields.

Valley Forge.—The village of Valley Forge is situated on the south bank of the Schuylkill and at the mouth of East Valley Creek, which here forms for nearly a mile and a half the boundary between the counties of Montgomery and Chester. It is six miles above Norristown and twenty-three from Philadelphia. That portion of it comprised within the limits of Upper Merion contains a store, grist-mill, paper-mill and ten houses. The Methodists have

held services at the place since 1870. The Rev. C. I. Thompson, a resident, served from that time for about ten years. The Rev. T. K. Peterson is now in charge. On the Chester County side there are a factory, store, post-office and fifteen houses. Palm Paper-Mill is under the management of Colonel Joseph Jordan, and does an extensive business. The Reading Railroad has a station here, and crosses the creek near its mouth on a bridge some thirty feet above the water, from which a beautiful view is offered looking up the stream. Among the interesting objects seen are the falls of the dams of the grist-mill and paper-mill, a short distance above each other, and of the venerable stone bridge crossing it about one hundred yards above; these, with the deep gorge of the stream and the high and rugged hills rising on either side and hemming in the village, form an interesting sight. Stolid, indeed, must be the person that has the recollections of the past stirring within him that can gaze on such a scene unmoved. The hills on both sides of the creek are generally steep, rugged and wooded to their summits, and present a wild appearance, much more so than one might expect from the populousness of the surrounding country.

In June, 1701, William Penn, in company with Isaac Norris, made a journey to the Susquehanna to treat with the Indians at Conestoga. On his return he came across the country to the Schuylkill and got lost among the woods on the hill near the present Valley Forge, and did not know where he was till he got on the hill this side of East Valley Creek, when, by a glimpse of the Schuylkill and the country to the southward, he regained his way, and in consequence named the former hill Mount Misery and the latter Mount Joy, which names they respectively bear to this day. On this occasion there is reason to believe he selected the tract, constituting in consequence the manor of Mount Joy, containing seven thousand eight hundred acres, located on the south or southwest side of the Schuylkill, adjoining the Welsh tract, patented to his daughter, Letitia, 24th of the following October, only ten days before his last return to England. In this grant Penn states as included, "all the powers of Court Baron, Court Leet and Frankpledge." Oldmixon, in 1708, speaks of this manor and of limestone having been procured thereon some time before. From Holme's map of original surveys we learn that it composed all of the upper portion of Upper Merion and part of the adjoining township of Tredyffrin, in Chester County.

The name of this place was derived from a forge erected here by Isaac Potts, a son of John Potts, the founder of Pottstown. How early this forge was erected we cannot say, but it must have been before 1759, for it is denoted on Nicholas Scull's map of the province, published in said year, as being on the Upper Merion side of the stream, which is confirmed on William Scull's map of 1770. On September 19, 1777, a detachment of the British army encamped

here and burned the mansion-house of Colonel Dewees and the iron-works, leaving the grist-mill uninjured. In the assessment of Upper Merion for 1780 we find Isaac Potts taxed here for a grist and saw-mill. In 1789 he is assessed here for one hundred and seventy-five acres of land, a forge, grist and saw-mill and eight horses, the forge having since been rebuilt. In these several authorities there is certainly sufficient evidence that the forge did stand on the Montgomery County side and not on the west of East Valley Creek, as a few writers have persisted. In addition, it is reasonable to suppose that, as the residence of Isaac Potts was in Upper Merion, as well as the iron-ore obtained near by, that necessarily, for convenience, the forge would also be on the same side.

Both Washington and his officers were satisfied that Whitemarsh was not the proper place for a winter encampment. The former, therefore, requested his general officers to communicate to him, in writing, their sentiments respecting the most eligible site for that purpose. A council of war was held on the 30th of November, at which a wide difference of opinion prevailed as to the locality and the best manner of cantoning the troops. So various and contradictory were the opinions and councils that unanimity could not be hoped for, and it was necessary for Washington to act according to his own judgment and upon his own responsibility. He decided to form an encampment at Valley Forge, where he might be near enough to the British army to watch its movements, keep its foraging-parties in check, and protect the country from the depredations of the enemy. For this purpose the patriot army left Whitemarsh December 11, 1777, but did not arrive at Valley Forge until the 19th. Two days before Washington issued a proclamation to the army, in which he gave his reasons for the course he was about to pursue. It is an interesting document, and breathes throughout the language of devoted patriotism, while at the same time it evinces the cool determination to conduct the war to a happy close. Owing to its length, we shall only give place to an extract,—

"The General ardently wishes it were now in his power to conduct the troops into the best winter-quarters; but where are they to be found? Should we retire to the interior of the State, we should find them crowded with virtuous citizens, who, sacrificing their all, have left Philadelphia and fled hither for protection; to their distresses humanity forbids us to add. This is not all. We should leave a vast extent of fertile country to be despoiled and ravaged by the enemy, from which they would draw vast supplies, and where many of our firm friends would be exposed to all the miseries of an insulting and wanton depredation. A train of evils might be enumerated, but these will suffice. These considerations make it indispensably necessary for the army to take such a position as will enable it most effectually to prevent distress and give the most extensive security; and in that position we must make ourselves the best shelter in our power. With alacrity and diligence, huts may be erected that will be warm and dry. In these the troops will be compact, more secure against surprises than if in a divided state and at hand to protect the country. These cogent reasons have determined the General to take post in the neighborhood of this camp, and, influenced by them, he persuades himself that the officers and soldiers, with one heart and one mind, will resolve to surmount every difficulty with a fortitude and patience becoming their profession and the sacred cause in which they

are engaged. He himself will share the hardships and partake of every inconvenience."

It is not our intention here to enter into the details of the important events that transpired at Valley Forge during the six months' encampment, for that belongs rather to the Revolutionary history of the county, but merely mention a few local facts outside of that subject. Washington, in the latter part of the summer of 1796, when his second term as President of the United States had nearly expired, and he was about to return to private life, concluded once more to visit this place, the scene of so many toils and struggles. This information was furnished the writer by the late Henry Woodman, a native of the vicinity, in 1858, then aged sixty-three years, as obtained from his father, who at the time was engaged in plowing on his farm, near the place of the encampment. In the afternoon he observed an elderly man, of dignified appearance, on horseback, dressed in a plain suit of black, accompanied by a colored servant, ride to a place in the road nearly opposite, where he alighted from his horse and came into the field. He stated he had called to make some inquiry concerning the owners and occupants of the different places about there, and also in regard to the system of farming practiced in that part of the country, and numerous other questions relating to agriculture. He also made inquiry after certain families in the neighborhood. As answers were given, he noted them down in a book. Mr. Woodman informed him that he could not give as correct answers as he wished, as he had only moved in the neighborhood since the war, though he had been in the army while it was encamped here. This gave a new turn to the conversation. The stranger informed him that he had also been in the army and at the camp, and as he expected to leave the city in a few months, with the prospect of never returning, he had taken this journey to visit the place which had been the scene of so much suffering and distress, and to see how far the inhabitants had recovered from its effects. On learning it was Washington, he told him that his appearance had so altered that he did not recognize him, or else he would have paid more respect to his late commander, now the chief magistrate of the nation. He replied that to see the people happy and the desolate fields recovering from the disasters they had experienced, and to meet with any of his old companions, now peaceably engaged in the most useful of all employments, afforded him more satisfaction than all the homage that could be paid to his person or station. He then said that pressing engagements rendered it necessary for him to be in the city that night, and taking him by the hand, bade him an affectionate farewell.

Among the prisoners of General Burgoyne's army was Captain Thomas Anbury, who gives the following interesting account of his stay here overnight in December, 1778, while on the march to Virginia under escort, exactly six months after the Americans

had vacated it. Some of this information is new and no doubt reliable, and also corroborates the great suffering and hardships of our army here,—

"Our troops slept in the huts at Valley Forge, which had been constructed by the Americans, and we remained till late the next day for the delivery of provisions before we marched. I had a full opportunity to reconnoiter the whole camp. On the east and south sides were entrenchments, with a ditch six feet wide and three deep, the mound not four feet high, very narrow, and easily to have been beat down with a cannon; two redoubts were also begun, but not completed. The Schuylkill was on the left, and, as I before observed, with a bridge across it; the rear was mostly covered by an impassable precipice formed by Valley Creek, having only a narrow passage near the river. This camp was by no means difficult of access, for the right was attainable, and in one part of the front the ascent was scarcely to be perceived. The defenses were exceedingly weak, and this is the only instance I ever saw of the Americans having such slight works, these being such that a six-pounder could easily have battered down. The ditches were not more than three feet deep, and so narrow that a drummer-boy might with ease leap over.

"A Loyalist, at whose house I was quartered, at Valley Forge, and who resided here at the time Washington's army was encamped, told me that when General Washington chose that spot for his winter-quarters his men were obliged to build their huts with round logs and suffered exceedingly from the inclemency of the season. The greater part of them were in a manner naked at that severe season of the year, many without shoes and stockings, and very few, except the Virginia troops, with the necessary clothing. His army was wasting away with sickness, that raged with extreme mortality in all his different hospitals, which were no less than eleven. His army was likewise so diminished by constant desertions in companies, from ten to fifteen at a time, that at one period it was reduced to four thousand, and those with propriety could not be called effective.

"The horses, from being constantly exposed to showers of rains and falls of snow, both day and night, were in such a condition that many of them died, and the rest were so emaciated as to be unfit for labor; had he been attacked or repulsed he must have left behind all his artillery, for want of horses to convey it. In addition to all those distresses, Washington had not in camp at any one time a week's provisions for man and horse, and sometimes he was totally destitute. The Loyalists greatly censure General Howe in suffering Washington to continue in this weak and dangerous state from December till May, and equally astonished what could be the motive he did not attack, surround or take by siege the whole army when the severity of the weather was gone. They expected that in the month of March, April and May they should hear of the camp being stormed or besieged. But it seems that General Howe was exactly in the same situation as General Burgoyne respecting intelligence, obtaining none he could place a perfect reliance on."

The house occupied by Washington as his headquarters is still standing, having undergone but little alteration since that time. It was owned in the Revolution by Isaac Potts, the proprietor of the forge. It is a two-story stone building, situated near the Reading Railroad. The main portion of it has a front of about twenty-four feet and is thirty-three in depth. The outside is of dressed stone, pointed. The interior wood-work is still in a good state of preservation, and with care this building may be made to last for centuries, as its walls appear as durable as when first built. No one familiar with our Revolutionary history can enter the room which served the great chief for nearly half a year, both as a reception-room and bed-chamber, and where he wrote many important dispatches, without feelings of the deepest emotions. In the sill of the east window of this room, and out of which can be seen a considerable portion of the camping-ground, is still pointed out a small, rough box, as having contained

his papers and writing material. We gazed at this depository and other objects around with considerable interest, hallowed as they are by so many associations of the times that "tried men's souls." Adjoining is a wing one and a half stories high and about twenty-four feet in length, which has been built since the war, but it occupies the site of a smaller structure that was erected for the accommodation of Mrs. Washington. In a letter to a friend this lady remarks: "The General's apartment is very small,—he has had a log-cabin built to dine in, which has made our quarters much more tolerable than they were at first." This property was long owned and carefully preserved by Mrs. Hannah Ogden, of whom, in 1878, it was purchased by the Centennial and Memorial Association of Valley Forge, which was specially organized for this purpose, and it can therefore be no longer regarded as private property.

There are various remains of the encampment still visible. On the road to Port Kennedy is a portion of land uninclosed, where the foundations of the hut occupied by Baron Steuben are still visible, and the ground is undisturbed on which he drilled his soldiers. At the distance of half a mile from the headquarters a line of entrenchments crosses the road, beginning near the Schuylkill, and extending southwards fully a mile, terminating near the Chester County line. On the farm of William Stephens, a few yards north of this road is a redoubt, not quite a quarter of a mile from the Schuylkill, placed there to command Sullivan's bridge, which was just below Catfish Island, in case of an attempt being made to enter the encampment from the north side of the river. This redoubt is about a mile from the headquarters. On the south side of the road, and in front of these entrenchments, is a redoubt called Fort Hamilton, and another called Fort Washington nearly a mile south and close to the Chester County line. These are now the most prominent remains existing and were among the most important. As most of the encampment-ground is still in a state of nature, it has therefore generally remained undisturbed to this day, though more than a century has passed away since that eventful period.

Relics are still occasionally found by persons living in that vicinity. Wm. Henry, Jr., found a number on his father's farm, which were shown to the writer in 1858. Among these were pewter buttons, having on them the figures seven, eight and ten, no doubt intended to show the regiment or brigade to which they belonged; also, spoons, bayonets and fragments of musket-locks, looking considerably time-worn, besides a variety of musket-balls, some of which were of a large size. Wm. R. Kennedy, in the spring of 1857, turned up with the plow, on his farm, several twelve and sixteen-pound cannon-balls and several hatchets. The latter were about the usual size, but shaped precisely like a modern chopping-axe. At the Montgomery County Centennial exhibit, Norristown, in September, 1884, a considerable display of relics was

made, many of them having been obtained in and around the place of this encampment.

The Swedes in Upper Merion.—The credit is due to the Swedes of having made the first permanent settlement in Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1637 two vessels arrived from Göttenburg, called the "Key of Calmar" and the "Bird Grip." A purchase was made by those colonists from the Indians the following year of the lands on the west side of the bay and river from Cape Henlopen to Santhicon, or the falls of the Delaware, which they called New Sweden. Tradition has it that the ancestors of the Rambos, Holsteins, Yocums and Matsons came in these vessels. After more arrivals, in February, 1643, Governor Printz, selected for settlement the low alluvial island in the Delaware, called Tinicum or Tinnekonk, situated below, but near the mouth of the Schuylkill. Here a settlement was made and a fort and a church built. Peter Lindstrom, the royal Swedish engineer, in 1654, made a map of New Sweden, on which the Schuylkill is denoted as far up as to contain a small part of the territory now comprised in Montgomery County. But no evidence, strange to say, exists of any early settlement or explorations up or along this river by the Swedes, even thirteen years after the arrival of Penn.

In 1696, John and Gunnar Rambo had secured by purchase a tract of land in the present Upper Merion, which had also been previously granted to Lasse Cock and company in 1684. Subsequent to any settlement it was ascertained that William Penn had granted the aforesaid tract, containing in all seven thousand eight hundred acres, October 24, 1701, to his daughter, Letitia, as the manor of Mount Joy. Upon investigation Penn's attorneys restored two hundred and fifty acres to John Rambo, March 6, 1709. A tract was surveyed to Gunnar Rambo, April 11, 1702, containing six hundred and fourteen acres, which is stated to have been bounded on the north by Peter Cock's and the south by Widow Yocum's land. It appears that afterwards a different survey was ordered, because "being within the bounds of Letitia Penn's Manor." How these matters were afterwards adjusted we have not definitely ascertained, but it is certain that what is known as the Swedes' Tract was located on the west side of the Schuylkill, between the present borough of Bridgeport and the Lower Merion line, and extending from the same a mile or more westwards, and came in possession of Mats Holstein, Gunnar Rambo, Peter Rambo, Peter Yocum and probably John Matson in 1712, and upon which they soon after settled and made the first improvements. It was a judicious selection, and their descendants to this day still retain a considerable portion of the same. According to tradition, these settlers commenced clearing away the trees and underbrush along the river early in the spring of this year and erected rude log dwellings, into which they moved with their families in June. Further additions were made by purchase from Robert Llewellyn, Evan Hughes and perhaps

other Welsh settlers in this vicinity, who had preceded them nearly a quarter of a century. The Swedes called this section Ammasland, probably after some district or place in Sweden.

Of these, Mats Holstein settled the farthest to the northwest of Philadelphia. His wife was Brita Gostenberg. His family consisted of sons, Andrew, Mathias and Frederick, and daughters, Deborah and Brita. His original dwelling stood beside the Schuylkill, within the present limits of Bridgeport. He died in 1738, aged sixty-one, when his eldest son, Andrew, inherited the home place, which we know in 1723 if not earlier, bore the name of Swedes' Ford. He married Mary Jones, of Lower Merion, and at his death left the property to his only son, Peter, who was rated in 1780 as holding here one hundred and ninety-seven acres, and was at this time the township collector. He died in 1785, and the property descended to his only child, Mary, who had married Levi Bartleson. On account of the French and Indian troubles in 1747, a company of volunteers was formed, of which Mathias Holstein was lieutenant and Frederick Holstein ensign.

Mats Holstein, the first settler, in 1714, built a stone house, about a mile from the river, to which he removed, with his family. Four generations of his descendants were born here, and its walls still stand, though they have been built upon and added to several times since. His second son, Mathias, already mentioned, who was born in 1717, married Magdalena, daughter of Marcus Hulings, of Morlatton, a Swedish settlement on the Schuylkill, four miles above the present borough of Pottstown. Mrs. Holstein survived her husband many years and related several incidents in her early life which at this day seem curious. She well remembered, when quite young, being carried some distance on a squaw's back. The traveling was then chiefly performed in canoes. When married and brought to Swedes' Ford, near where her husband resided, she and all her wedding friends came down the river in canoes. Mathias Holstein died December 10, 1768, aged fifty-one years, and was buried at the Swedes' Church. He is stated to have been one of the most active in its erection in 1760.

Samuel Holstein, son of the latter, was rated in 1780 as holding two hundred and seventy-eight acres. It is said that on this tract he shot deer as late as 1760. He had four sons,—Major Mathias, Charles, Colonel George W. and William. Some account of the former is given in the history of Bridgeport. The latter became the owner of the homestead, remained unmarried, and after his death the property was sold, and thus, after a long possession, it passed out of the family. George W. Holstein resided on Peach Farm, adjoining the old homestead. In 1812 he was secretary of the Mount Joy Horse Company, became captain of the Second Troop of Montgomery County and lieutenant-colonel of the Second Battalion. At a meeting held

at Norristown August 25, 1824, he was appointed one of a committee of six to invite Lafayette to visit Montgomery County, particularly Whitemarsh, Barren Hill and Valley Forge. In November, 1827, he was elected one of the first managers of the De Kalb Street bridge, since declared free. He died February 10, 1841, aged sixty-three years. He left three sons,—Isaac, William H. and Dr. George W., the former being lately deceased.

Of our early Swedish families, perhaps none are now so numerous as that of Rambo. The first ancestor, Peter Rambo, appears to have been a conspicuous man in the early settlement. In 1657 he was appointed one of the magistrates of the colony; he was also a commissary, which office he resigned in 1661. In May, 1668, was made one of the counselors of Robert Carr, Deputy-Governor; appointed a justice of the peace, with five others, October 3, 1676, for the jurisdiction of the Delaware River. He was a native of Göttenburg and had a sister living there in 1692, and the following year is mentioned, with Andrew Bonde, as perhaps the only survivor of those that came over in the first expedition, which would show that he must then have been pretty well advanced in years. He had four sons then living; these were Peter, Gunnar, Andrew and John. Peter Rambo, Jr., was present at the landing of Penn at Upland (now Chester) November 8, 1682. He is mentioned as having in 1693 six persons in his family. Charmed with the beauty and fertility of the Schuylkill Valley, he removed with his family from the vicinity of Upland, and settled on his tract in Upper Merion, with the others, in 1712, on which he spent the remainder of his days. Gunnar Rambo, in 1685, represented Philadelphia County in the Assembly; is mentioned in the list of 1693 as having also six in family. He arrived with his brother and settled on a large tract just below the present Bridgeport. A lot of land was purchased from his estate in 1758, upon which a school-house had been erected and subsequently the church.

Mons or Mounce Rambo was the son of Gunnar Rambo, and was born in 1693, and accompanied his father to Upper Merion, where he spent the remainder of his days. He was a famous hunter, and his exploits still live in the traditions of the neighborhood. He used to say that when he first came here there were numbers of friendly Indians about and among them. He stated that he had shot deer in the vicinity as late as the year 1770. Once he shot a panther which he discovered attempting to attack his dog. Another time he wounded a large deer, and, stepping across it to cut its throat with a knife, the deer made off with him at full speed; however, he clung to its back, and in this position succeeded in killing the animal. In the graveyard of the Swedes' Church may be seen a large stone which has inscribed on it, "In Memory of Mons Rambo, who departed this life October 23d, 1782, aged 89 years." In the list of settlers of Upper Merion, in 1734, we find the names of Mounce, Gabriel,

John and Elias Rambo, and for the same year Peter Rambo, holding two hundred acres in Providence township. On the ancient tombstones we find the names of Diana Rambo, who died January 30, 1744-45, aged thirty-six years; Peter Rambo, June 18, 1767, aged forty-two years; and Mathias Rambo, October 10, 1782, aged sixty-six years. In the assessor's list of Upper Merion for 1780 we find Ezekiel Rambo rated for 45 acres; Sarah Rambo, 40; John Rambo, 90; George Rambo, 200; Tobias Rambo, 57; Mounce Rambo, 100; and Abraham Rambo; as single men, Gunnar Rambo, James Rambo and Benjamin Rambo. Gunnar Rambo was assessed in Limerick township, in 1776, for one hundred and seventy acres, and Moses Rambo, a single man, probably a son. In the list of voters in Upper Merion in 1858, six Rambos are registered and the same number in Upper Providence.

Peter Yocum is mentioned in the Upland Court records as being on a jury held there in December, 1681. In March, 1682, he was appointed overseer of highways for one year, from Karker's Mills to the Falls of Schuylkill. The list of 1693 represents his having nine persons in his family. He also removed to Upper Merion, and settled immediately below the Rambo brothers. In the list of 1734 we still find the name of Peter Yocum; whether the same person or a son we are not able to state. In the assessor's list of the township for 1780, Moses Yocum is rated for one hundred acres and James Yocum twenty-five acres. Swan Yocum was a resident of Towamencin township in 1780. A stone in Swedes' Churchyard informs us that the aforesaid Moses Yocum died March 1, 1787, aged sixty-seven years. At Morlatton, Peter Yocum resided, and died July 13, 1794, aged seventy-six. The voter's list of Upper Merion for 1858 shows that the family has here become extinct, but is found in Upper Providence and several of the adjoining townships.

Nils Matson was a native of Sweden, and very probably the ancestor of John Matson, mentioned in the list of 1693. The latter is represented at that date as having eleven persons in his family. One of the same name, who was probably a son, is represented as having moved into Upper Merion on a large tract of land adjoining Lower Merion. As the country became settled a ford was established here, and thus received the name of Matson's Ford. During the Revolution the American army crossed several times at this place. It was then owned by Peter Matson, and on his death the land was divided among his sons, leaving each a farm. In the assessment of 1780, Peter Matson had here one hundred and seventy-nine acres, a portion being then farmed by his son, Isaac Matson. Jacob Matson at this date resided in Lower Merion, and was probably a brother of the latter. The land here has for some time passed out of the family. In the Upper Merion voters' list for 1858 one of the name is mentioned.

William Penn, it appears, was delighted with the kind reception he received from the gentle-hearted

Swedes. After his departure from this country he sent a letter from London, dated the 16th of First Month, 1684-85, to Thomas Lloyd, president of the Council, in which he says, "Salute me to the Swedes, Captain Cock, old Peter Cock and Rambo and their sons, the Swansons, Andrew Binkson, P. Yoakum, and the rest of them. Their ambassador here dined with me the other day." Again, in his "Present State of America," printed in London in 1687, at page 106, says, "I must need commend the Swedes' respect to authority and kind behavior to the English; they do not degenerate from the old friendship between both kingdoms. As they are people proper and strong of body, so they have fine children, and almost every house full, rare to find one of them without three or four boys and as many girls; some, six, seven, eight sons. And I must do them that right: I see few young men more sober and industrious."

In connection with this subject are a few matters deserving mention. The Swedish language, it appears, was still spoken by their descendants here as late as the Revolution. Mathias Holstein, who died in 1768, spoke it in his family. Andrew Rambo, aged seventy years, informed the writer at Swedesburg, in 1858, that when a young man he attended worship at Gloria Dei Church, at Wicaco, and heard the Rev. Dr. Colin preach there in Swedish, but was unable to understand it. He also stated that his grandfather, Tobias Rambo, spoke the language. It is supposed that no preaching in Swedish was ever done in the Swedes' or Christ Church here, but that Dr. Colin, would now and then, from habit, use a Swedish word in his sermon, which he would endeavor afterwards to explain. From the earliest period the Swedes and their descendants have shown a predilection to reside along the valleys of the Delaware and Schuylkill, and where they still hold most fertile tracts. As a people they have been honest and industrious, and remarkable for pursuing the even tenor of their way to prosperity, rarely venturing in any undertaking that partook of mere speculation. In consequence they have been rarely affected by those disastrous convulsions that now and then occur to wreck the more venturesome.

Christ Church.—The early Swedes were undoubtedly a moral and religious people, and under the most adverse circumstances never lost sight of their faith. On Tinicum Island, in 1646, they erected the first house of worship in Pennsylvania. At Wicaco, now in the lower part of Philadelphia, they converted a block-house to this purpose in 1677, which was torn down in 1700, and a commodious brick church, called Gloria Dei, built in its place. A patent was granted to Rev. Andrew Rudman and other Swedes, October 2, 1701, for ten thousand acres situated on the east bank of the Schuylkill, about four miles above the present borough of Pottstown. On this tract a settlement was made, very probably the following year,

which was called Morlatton, but now known as Douglassville. They had worship here in private houses until 1735, when a church, denominated St. Gabriel's, was commenced and finished in 1737. The graveyard, however, was used as a place of interment, according to the tombstones, at least as early as 1719.

About 1730 the Rev. Samuel Hesselius, the pastor of Morlatton, on his return from Wicaco, made a visit to the Swedes of Upper Merion, and at the house of Gunnar Rambo held services, at which there was a good attendance from the surrounding neighborhood. On this occasion he advised the erection of a school-house, that their children might enjoy the advantages of a better education than they had heretofore received in their home instruction, as well as for holding therein religious services. His suggestions were so well received that arrangements were soon afterwards made to carry out the project. A committee was appointed to secure the site and erect the building. An acre of ground was obtained from Gunnar Rambo, which was inclosed with a post and rail fence, which no doubt led to the origin of the burial-ground. The school-house was completed in 1735, if not earlier, but no regular teacher was employed for some time. Religious worship was now held here several times a year and at private houses, generally conducted by lay members. The Rev. Olif Parlin, a missionary stationed at Wicaco, it is known preached here at least on one occasion, in 1756. Before this marriages and baptisms had been performed at Gloria Dei, with which this congregation was united, as well as the one at Kingsessing.

With a view of building a church, the school-house lot was purchased, for eleven pounds sterling, from the estate of Gunnar Rambo, deceased. The deed therefor was dated May 7, 1758, and was executed by Ezekiel Rambo and wife to Mounce Rambo, Andrew Holstein, Peter Rambo and George Rambo, who had been chosen trustees on behalf of the Swedish Lutheran congregation. It conveys the lot to them "in trust for the use of the said Lutheran congregation, their heirs and successors forever, and that for the use of a burying-ground, a church, a school-house and other buildings hereafter to be erected thereon, as the said congregation and their successors forever shall or will think meet or proper, and for no other use, intent or purpose whatsoever." Arrangements were now made for the erection of the church, and were so actively entered into that it was completed and dedicated as Christ Church June 24, 1760. On this occasion the sermon was preached by the Rev. Charles Magnus Wrangle, who had been sent over the previous year to take charge of the three congregations already mentioned as constituting the mission. His sermon on this occasion was based on the text from Isaiah, "Thus saith the Lord, the heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?" He returned to Sweden in

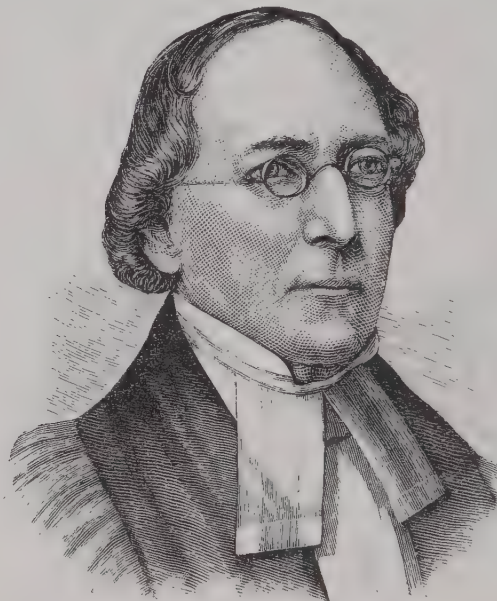
1768 and was there made a bishop. He was a popular and eloquent divine, and because of the numbers that frequently attended to hear his discourses, often preached in the open air. During his ministry in Pennsylvania he generally held services here once a month. On these occasions numbers would come hither in canoes, even from Morlatton, and also by the same means to hear him at Wicaco. At this time the church and yard were inclosed by a stone wall, leaving the school-house outside the same.

The Rev. Andrew Goeranson succeeded in the charge, and continued therein until the close of 1779. In 1774, Rev. Charles Lute, of the Episcopal Church, was appointed his assistant. He was a warm patriot during the Revolution, and animated his hearers by introducing the subject in his sermons. It is a tradition that when Washington was in the vicinity with his army he attended worship here on one occasion, if not afterwards. In January, 1780, Rev. Mathias Hultgrew succeeded Mr. Goeranson, and officiated until May, 1786. In July of that year Rev. Nicholas Colin received the charge of the mission, which he held until his death, in 1831, the long period of forty-five years, and retained the high regard of his congregation to the close. In this interval he was occasionally assisted in his ministrations by several pastors of the Episcopal Church. Although Dr. Colin resided at Wicaco, he always took an interest in his Upper Merion congregation, whom he visited monthly on horseback. He loved his calling and the church flourished under his pastorate. He was buried at Gloria Dei, where a tablet has been placed to his memory, he being one of the last of a long line of missionaries sent out from Sweden to sustain in the faith her colonists and descendants.

Owing to a petition from the members of this and the other churches at Wicaco and Kingsessing, they were all three unitedly incorporated by Governor John Penn, September 25, 1765, as "Swedish Lutheran Churches." At a meeting of the vestry in July, 1786, it was resolved that whenever His Majesty, the King of Sweden, shall deem it proper or convenient to recall the Rev. Mr. Colin, "the mission to the congregations will undoubtedly cease." In consequence, application was made to the State Legislature for an amendment to the charter, which was passed September 10, 1787, which makes a provision in the fifth section for the election of a rector or other ministers and "that such rector or other ministers shall be in the ministry of the Lutheran or Episcopal Churches." The union of the three churches prior to 1765 was continued till 1843, when it was dissolved by a petition from the several congregations, through an act of Assembly, which severed their connection with each other as a corporate body, forming them into three distinct parishes, with their respective rectors.

After the death of Dr. Colin, the Rev. Jehu C. Clay became the rector of the three churches from January, 1832, until their separation, in 1843. Rev. Edwin N.

Lightner succeeded in the sole charge in July, 1844, and continued until February, 1855. In the spring of said year Rev. William Henry Rees became the rector, which relation he sustained for six years. The Rev. Thomas S. Yocum, of Swedish descent, followed in May, 1861, and remained till the summer of 1870. Rev. O. Perinchief, in July of said year, held the charge to September 8, 1873. The Rev. E. A. Wariner immediately assumed the rectorship until February 21, 1875. Mr. Perinchief resumed the charge in the following April, which he retained until his death, April 29, 1877. The Rev. A. A. Marple became his successor September 9, 1877, and is the present incumbent.



J. C. Clay

The graveyard having become too small, with a desire to its enlargement and making other improvements, a meeting was held at the church March 12, 1837, the vestry consisting of George W. Holstein, Benjamin B. Hughes, Andrew Shainline and J. Cleaver Rambo, to whom were added a committee consisting of William H. Holstein, Nathan Rambo, Ivins Rambo and Samuel H. Coates, to attend to the necessary arrangements. It was now agreed to enlarge the church. C. Ramsey & Sons were engaged to do the mason-work, and Andrew Rambo to superintend the carpentry. On the 1st of February, 1838, the church was consecrated by Bishop Onderdonk, assisted by Revs. J. C. Clay, William N. Deihl, William H. Rees and others. On this occasion the rite of confirmation was administered for the first time within its walls.

to eleven persons. In 1845 the parsonage was erected at a cost of upwards of seventeen hundred dollars, and the Sunday-school building previous to 1870.

The church is a handsome, plain, stone, Gothic edifice, built in the form of a cross, with a square tower upwards of fifty feet high, in which a bell was placed in 1855. Few houses of worship have a more beautiful situation, being on an elevated, sloping, shady bank of the Schuylkill and to the traveler on the eastern side of the river forming a picturesque object, through some resemblance reminding one of the old church at Straford-on-Avon. It is surrounded by a large graveyard, inclosed by a wall, in which grow maple, poplar and cedar-trees. A great many, as may be well supposed, have been buried here, one of the tombstones bearing the date of 1745, showing that it must have been thus used some time before the erection of the church. Among the names found here may be mentioned Broades, Brook, Holstein, Gartley, Supplee, Novioch, Custer, Ramsey, Thomas, Amies, Jones, Clay, Hughes, Munson, Learnard, Pastorius, Dehaven, Rambo, Engle, Coates, Roberts, Famous and Henderson. Though the form of worship is Episcopal, yet this church is not attached to the diocese, this right having been reserved by its members. Of all the Swedish Lutheran Churches in Pennsylvania, this is now the only one that has retained the privilege. Major Mathias Holstein related that down to 1780 the worshipers that came from any distance, and lived away from navigation, came to attend service here on horseback, which practice was pretty generally maintained down to 1830. Indeed, for this purpose, the side-saddle formed a portion of the young bride's outfit.

ASSESSMENT OF UPPER MERION FOR 1780.

Isaac Hughes, assessor; Samuel Holstein, assistant assessor, and Peter Holstein, collector.

Adam Eve, tailor, 32 acres, 1 horse and 2 cows; Leonard Shanline's estate, 22 a.; John Famous, 1 h., 2 c.; Evan Evans, 2 h., 2 c.; Margaret Bell, 125 a.; Joshua Phillips, 200 a., 2 h., 6 c.; James Abraham, 190 a., 3 h., 8 c.; John Cleaver, 80 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Benjamin Ramsey, 2 h., 5 c.; William Long's estate, 20 a.; Peter Wells, farmer, 112 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Isaac Davis, 250 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Moore, 3 h., 2 c.; Abraham Griffith, miller, 1 h., 1 c., for Jacob Walker and Samuel Kelly, 125 a. and a grist-mill; Daniel Thompson, tailor, 1 c.; Jane Moore, 275 a., 2 h., 5 c.; James Hazelton's estate, 125 a.; Michael Sher, 1 h., 3 c.; Henry Casselberry, 2 h., 2 c.; Morris Stephens, 150 a., 1 negro; David Stephens, 300 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Mordecai Moore, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Bernard Vanhorne, 1 h., 2 c.; George Hart, 2 c.; John Pugh, store-keeper, 1 h., 50 gals. rum, 200 lbs. brown sugar, 100 lbs. coffee; Isaac Potts' estate, 35 a., grist and saw-mill; James Berry, tavern-keeper, 2 h., 2 c.; John Britton, 190 a., 2 h., 5 c., 1 riding-chair; Henry Braunanman, 50 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Lawrence Stuart, 100 a., 4 h., 5 c.; William Terrance, 3 h., 5 c., rents on shares; Robert Blunden, weaver, 1 c.; Thomas Sturges, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c., 1 negro wench; Amos Sturges; John Sturges, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Lyle, 160 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Thomas Edwards, shoemaker, 6 a., 2 h., 2 c.; William Farr, in the army, 150 a., 2 h., 1 c.; John Dugan, 2 h., 2 c.; Thomas Rees, 300 a., 4 h., 8 c., 1 negro; Benjamin Jones, 15 a.; Arthur Campbell, weaver, 2 h., 2 c.; George George, 470 a., 2 h., 6 c., saw-mill; Thomas Davis, 135 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Peter Whiteside's estate, 90 a.; Isaac Supplee, 80 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Ingals, 115 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Griffith Powell, 100 a., 2 h., 6 c.; John Johnson, 90 a., 3 h., 4 c., 1 servant; William Crawford, 100 a., 2 h., 4 c., 1 servant girl; Abraham Thomas, smith, 1 c.; Isaac Matson, 2 h., 1 c.; Anthony Sturges, 90 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Amos Willets, fuller, 39 a., 1 h., 2 c., fulling-mill; Peter Matson, 179 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Isaac

Knight, 2 h., 3 c., rents from Edward Shippen's estate, 230 a.; David Jordan, 1 h., 2 c.; Henry Coldflesh, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Rees, 100 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Andrew Supplee, 64 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Moses Yocum, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; Benjamin Ramsey, 1 c.; Ezekiel Rambo, 45 a., 2 h., 2., 1 servant girl; Absalom Priest, tailor, 1 h., 1 c.; Jonas Yocum's estate, 25 a.; William Gabb, miller, 2 c.; Sarah Rambo, 40 a., 2 h., 1 c.; John Rambo, 90 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Dennis Collins, weaver, 2 h., 2 c.; George Savage, inn-keeper, 2 h., 1 c.; Philip Rees' estate, 28 a., 2 h., 2 c.; John Roberts, miller, 23 a., grist-mill, 2 h., 2 c.; Joseph Williams, 200 a., 4 h., 3 c.; Jonathan Roberts, 300 a., 3 h., 6 c.; William Cleaver, 180 a., 3 h., 3 c.; William Wilson, 1 h., 1 c.; Samuel Phillips, 150 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Jacob Eagy, 2 h., 2 c.; Jonathan Tucker, 93 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Moses Davis, 1 h., 1 c.; George Rambo, 200 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Jehu Jones, 250 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Nathan Sturges, joiner, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Thomas Martin, tailor, 1 h., 1 c.; John Horn's estate, 60 a.; John Henderson, 100 a., 3 h., 1 c.; Benjamin Eastburn, 200 a., 3 h., 5 c., 1 servant; Henry O. Neal, 2 h., 2 c.; George Woolmore, weaver, 2 c.; Sarah Bryan's estate, 71 a.; Michael Wals, 1 h., 2 c.; Isaac Abraham's estate, 60 a.; Tobias Rambo, 57 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Andrew Shanline, shoemaker, 100 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Mounce Rambo, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Abraham Rambo, 1 h.; Samuel Ramsey, smith, 1 h., 2 c.; William Dewees' estate, 120 a.; James Jones, 17 a.; Abijah Stevens, 60 a.; Jacob Baillets, 1 c.; Andrew Hammon, 1 c.; Henry Priest, mason, 2 h., 3 c.; Cephus Bartleson, inn-keeper, 4 h., 6 c., pays 200 bu. of wheat rent to Peter Holstein; Peter Holstein, 197 a., 1 h.; Samuel Holstein, 278 a., 5 h., 9 c., 1 negro; Isaac Hughes, 489½ a., 3 h., 6 c., 1 negro wench; Abraham Nanna's estate, 196 a.; Lindsay Coats, 136¾ a., 3 h., 6 c., negro boy and girl; Jesse Roberts, stiller, 1 h., 2 c., still holds 90 gals.; John Jones, 29 a.; Samuel Miles, 150 a.; Rev. William Smith, 125 a. *Single Men.*—Jesse Roberts, Jonas Rambo, William George, David George, Nicholas Bower, William Stuart, Arthur Rice, Levi Priest, Leonard Spade, George Cool, Jonathan Phillips, Israel Davis, Enoch Enox, Morris Rowland, William McClure, Benjamin Rambo, Henry Brinsly, Mathias Coldflesh, Nathan Cook, John Pugh, Henry Castleberry, Jonathan Cleaver, Richard Moore, Morris Stephens.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOHN KENNEDY.

John Kennedy, the youngest of eight children of Alexander and Margaret Robison Kennedy, was born on the 18th of October, 1815, in Upper Merion township, Montgomery Co., Pa., and spent his youth on the homestead farm, located in the above township. The common schools, and, later, a boarding-school, afforded opportunities for more than a rudimentary education, after which his time and energies, until the attainment of his majority, were given to the farm. He then began the purchase and sale of stock, which in after-years reached such proportions as to become an important feature of business in the county. Mr. Kennedy was, on the 27th of November, 1841, married to Miss Margaret S., daughter of Moore Connell, of Lancaster County, Pa. Their children are Josephine, wife of M. M. Ellis, of Phoenixville, Pa.; Maggie S., wife of N. D. Cortwright, Jr., of Mauch Chunk, Pa.; Moore C., and five who are deceased. Mr. Kennedy, after engaging for several years in the purchase and sale of stock, secured, in 1842, the lime-works at Port Kennedy, which he continued during his lifetime to operate. He erected wharves on the Schuylkill River, and owned many schooners which were constantly plying between this and other ports, bearing the products of his extensive limekilns. With his advent the neighbor-

hood assumed an aspect of business life before unknown, dwellings being erected, as also structures for the prosecution of various commercial enterprises. In all this activity he was the leading spirit which directed and encouraged, by capital and personal effort, the growth and development of the place. In 1855, Mr. Kennedy purchased five farms in Kent and other counties in Maryland, and, although not a resident of the State, gave his supervision to their cultivation and improvement, and gave special attention to the growth of peaches. He still retained his extensive interests at Port Kennedy, and engaged largely in the sale of blooded stock, the superior quality of the

for years officially connected. Mr. Kennedy was, in politics, formerly a Democrat, and later affiliated with the Republican party. He cared little for office, and although, from motives of public spirit, occasionally accepting minor township positions, he declined more important honors tendered him. His death, which was felt by the community to be a public loss, occurred on the 4th of September, 1877, in his sixty-second year.

DANIEL KINZIE.

Mr. Kinzie is of Scotch antecedents, Alexander McKinzie, his great-grandfather, having emigrated in 1775



John Kennedy

horses and cattle offered at these sales making Port Kennedy an objective-point for buyers throughout the State.

Mr. Kennedy was identified with most of the important interests in the county. He was president of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, of Phoenixville, president of the Montgomery Agricultural Society, in which he felt a deep interest, and largely identified with the Grange movement in the county. He assisted in the construction of the Reading Railroad, having been awarded a contract for grading a section of the road. He was one of the originators of the Port Kennedy Bridge Company, with which he was

to America in company with his son Donald, who was born May 23, 1763, in the parish of Inverness. The latter was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and was wounded while in service on board a privateer. He subsequently became a farmer and died in 1843 in possession of much valuable land, a portion of which is still in possession of the family. His children were John and Ann by a first marriage, and by a second union, Rebecca, Christiana, Peter Davies, Mary and Alexander. John was born in 1786 in Delaware County, and first engaged in labor on the farm, after which he was employed in teaching. He served with the Norristown Rifles, under Captain Robinson, in the war

of 1812, having been stationed at Sandy Hook. Mr. Kinzie married, in 1811, Mary, daughter of William Sheaff, of Haverford, Delaware Co., and had children, —Emily, Sabina, Daniel, Susan, William, Isabella, Rebecca, Charles, John and Horatio G. Daniel was born on the 7th of April, 1818, in Lower Merion township, and devoted his boyhood to acquiring a common-school education, after which he, in 1836, entered a store in Manayunk, Philadelphia Co., and remained two years as clerk. He then became a resident of Upper Merion, and filled the same position at Bird-in-Hand, in that township. In 1847 he formed a co-part-

CHAPTER LXXVIII.

UPPER SALFORD TOWNSHIP.¹

THIS township is bounded on the north and northwest by Marlborough, south by Perkiomen and Lower Salford, west by Frederick, northeast by Bucks County and east by Franconia. Its greatest length is above eight miles, and breadth nearly four, with an area of twelve thousand seven hundred and fifty-five acres, and in extent it is the fourth in the county. The surface is rolling and several hills extend through it whose surface is stony; the soil consists of loam and



Daniel Kinzie

nership with Perry M. Hunter, which continued until 1859, when he retired from business. Mr. Kinzie having previously studied surveying with his father, he adopted it as a profession, and has since his retirement from commercial life found his services much in demand as a civil engineer and surveyor. He has during his whole life been a Democrat, and active in local political issues, having served for nine years as a member of the school board, and in other positions of trust, and since 1875 filled the office of justice of the peace. He was educated in the faith of the Baptist Church.

red shale. The principal streams are the East Branch, the Ridge Valley and Perkiomen. The latter forms its western boundary nearly four miles, and propels in the township four grist-mills and several other manufacturing establishments. The East Branch rises in Bucks County and forms its eastern boundary for nearly four miles, and, like Ridge Valley Creek, furnishes water-power to several mills.

One mile north of Schwenksville, on the east side of the Perkiomen Creek is Stone Hill, probably the

¹ By Wm. J. Buck.

highest elevation in the township. On measurement it is ascertained to be two hundred and forty feet above the adjacent stream. Its top affords a fine prospect of the surrounding country and is covered with timber, abounding in huge rocks, which renders it at places unfit for tillage. Foxes, raccoons, opossums and pheasants are still found there. In 1852 five full-grown red foxes were captured here that had lived upon the poultry of the neighborhood; they have now become scarce. On the west side of Ridge Valley Creek is also a wild, rocky range, following its course, covered with timber and abounding in all of the aforesaid animals. On the farm of Abraham G. Kober, about half a mile north of Mechanicsville, a copper-mine was opened in 1879. It has been leased for a royalty to Tetham & Brothers, of New York, who made excavations to a depth of twenty-three feet in the fall of 1883. It was discovered in plowing by traces of the ore existing in the stones near the surface. It is evidently a continuation of the same vein discovered and worked long ago near Zeiglersville, four miles distant.

The Spring House and Sumneytown turnpike crosses the central part for upwards of three miles. The Perkiomen Railroad enters Upper Salford about a mile above Schwenksville, following close along the east bank of the stream for three miles, in which distance it has three stations, called Salford, Hendricks and Kratz. The villages are Salfordville, Tylersport, Hendricks, Salford Station, Branchville and Mechanicsville, the first four containing post-offices. According to the census of 1800 it possessed 676 inhabitants; in 1840, 1301; and in 1880, 1866. The real estate for taxable purposes was valued in 1882 at \$979,230, and including the personal property, \$979,230, the average per taxable being \$2429. In May, 1883, five hotels, four general stores, twelve flour and feed, one boot and shoe, one stove and one furniture-store, one coal-yard and two restaurants were licensed. The township contains eight public schools, open five months, with an average attendance of 305 pupils for the school year ending June 1, 1882. The census of 1850 returned 277 houses, 277 families and 195 farms. A small portion of the territory of the township in the vicinity of Sumneytown and the adjoining part in Marlborough was formed into an independent school district in October, 1882.

The township of Salford was originally formed in March, 1727, and then contained upwards of thirty thousand acres of land, including all of the present townships of Marlborough, Upper and Lower Salford and a part of Franconia. In the beginning of 1741 a petition was sent to the Court of Quarter Sessions, signed by a number of the residents, wherein they state "that said township is settled with many inhabitants, some of whom escape being taxed for want of the true bounds being ascertained, praying this court would be pleased to view a draught to the said petition annexed, being part of the land of said township

of Salford, which contains about ten thousand acres, and that the same may be erected into a township by the name of Upper Salford." The court having taken the said petition into consideration, and examined said draught and bounds, erected the same into a township to be called by the name of Upper Salford, and the bounds were as follows, viz :

"Beginning at a White Oak on the East Branch of Perkiomy Creek, at a corner of Marlborough township, thence by the same North East 91 perches to a Post, thence by the same South East 30 perches to a White Oak, thence by the same North East 160 perches to a stone, thence by the same South East 96 perches to a Black Oak sapling, thence by the same North East 106 perches to a Post, thence by the same South East 10 perches to a Black Oak, thence by the same North East 26 perches to the Swamp Creek, thence up the same 150 perches, thence by the township aforesaid North East 22 perches to a Post, thence by the same North East 1200 perches to a Post in a line dividing the counties of Philadelphia and Bucks, thence down the same by Franconia township about 1300 perches, thence by Franconia township South East 184 perches to a Post at a corner of Salford township, thence by the same South West 165 perches to a White Oak, thence by the same South East 89 perches to a Post, thence by the same South West 772 perches to a Post, thence by the same South East 18 perches to a stone, thence by the same South West 78 perches to a Post, thence by the same South West 126 perches to a Post, thence by Perkiomen and Skippack townships North West 430 perches to Perkiomy Creek aforesaid, thence up the same about 1560 perches to the place of beginning, containing 10,000 acres. Erected at March Sessions, 1741."

The townships of Lower Salford and Marlborough were also established at this time, and consequently occupied all the remaining territory of Salford since the formation of Franconia, in 1731.

The records of the Old Goshenhoppen Church furnish us with a partial list of the early settlers of this township and vicinity, who were members of the same, with the places, in most instances, of their nativity, and the year of their arrival. Elias Long and wife, from Würtemberg, in 1716; John George Gankler and wife, Anna Barbara, from near Zürich, in 1717; John Henry Boyer, from the Pfaltz or Palatinate; John George Weiker and wife, Elizabeth, from Darmstadt, 1724; John Martin Derr and wife from Rheinbaiern, in 1728; John George Wagner, wife and son, George Martin, from Baiern, in 1731; John Michael Reicher, from Würtemberg; John Philip Gabel and wife, from Zweibrücken; Mathias Waltner, from the Pfaltz; John Christopher Bickel, from Würtemberg; John George Underkoffler, in 1732; Andreas Boyer, from the Pfaltz; Valentine Nungesser, in 1733; Isaac Klein; John Klein; George Weigert; John Jacob Fillman, wife and son Philip, in 1736; John William Daub and wife from near Worms, in 1737; and George Michael Wonnkessel and wife, from Würtemberg, in 1748. Henry Worman purchased a tract of land here in 1742, Henry Bomborger one hundred and fifty acres the year following, and Jacob Eck one hundred and twenty-five acres in 1747.

In the list of land-holders and tenants of Salford in 1734 the following, through the assistance of James Y. Heckler, of Harleysville, have been located as residents of Upper Salford; Peter Kuntz, 100 acres; Hans Michael Wagley, 100; Valentine Kratz, 100; Hans Wollyberge, 100; Jacob Ingress, 100; Ulrich Steffe,

50; Martin Hildebidle; Dewalt Young, 100; Christian Lehman, 100; Hans Adam Maurer, 100; Rudolph Drake, 50; Yost Cope, 100; Christopher Ankabrant, 100; Andrew Haake, 120; Ludwig Schaffer, 100; George Cochler, 100; William Smith, 100; Philip Read, 50; Christian Younglin, 20; Hans Underkoffler, 100; John Lebo; Abraham Titloe, 50; Michael Moll, 50; Mathias Haas, 100; Samuel Moyer, 100; Samuel Moyer, Jr.; Hans Moyer, Jr., 100; Hans Freed, 100; Jacob Cook, 100; John Henry Snyder, 100; Jacob Preuss or Price, 150 acres. Descendants of the name of Scholl, Moyer, Freed, Kratz and Hildebidle still hold lands here.

As this section of country from an early period has been called Goshenhoppen, and the first church erected in this township known only by this name, we deem the subject of sufficient importance to give some attention as to its origin and claims. The name has also been bestowed on several other places, as in Frederick and Upper Hanover townships and in the neighboring parts of Berks. It has puzzled numbers as to whether it is of Indian or German origin. By the modern spelling it would seem to belong to the latter, but the test of historical investigation indicates the former. The map accompanying Gabriel Thomas' "Account of Pennsylvania," published in London in 1698, establishes the fact, from the manner that the Perkiomen and its several branches are delineated thereon, that even previously to that date this section of country must have been pretty well explored, or it could not have been given with such correctness. A short distance north of Schwenksville, where the road crosses over Swamp Creek, veins of copper-ore are readily seen in the neighboring rocks, which is just below the mouth of what has been long known as Goshenhoppen Run, a stream about four miles in length. There is strong reason to believe that copper-mining was pursued here some time before any actual settlement was made for other purposes. In 1730 or thereabouts a large tract was taken up here for this especial object by a company, who sunk various shafts and entered into extensive operations. This was finally relinquished as not proving profitable. Hence it is our opinion that through these early labors the name of the aforesaid stream, in the absence of any other, became applied to this section of country, and it has been impossible to ascribe it to any other source. Nicholas Scull, in his map of the province, published in 1759, denotes these copper-mines. The earliest mention yet found of the name in records is in a petition of the inhabitants of Colebrookdale and parts adjacent, dated May 10, 1728, wherein it is called "Coshahapopin," and in another of 1735, "Quesohopin." In a petition to the court from this section for a road in March, 1751 it is "Cusaoppin." In an address of Rev. George Michael Weiss to Governor Thomas, November 2, 1754, he styles himself as residing in "Goschhoppe." The name of Goshenhoppen Run has been found in deeds of 1732,

but further research can no doubt reveal it earlier. Some have supposed the name to be derived from Shakhoppa, one of four chiefs of whom a considerable purchase of lands was made in 1685, in the present limits of Philadelphia, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware. There was a school district in this township so called which was abolished by an act of Assembly passed in 1859.

The earliest road in Upper Salford, according to the records, was one laid out and confirmed in June, 1728, from Skippack, through the present Lederachsville and Salfordville, to Sumneytown, where it terminated. It was then called the Skippack and Salford road. The road from the present Spring House to Sumneytown was confirmed and opened in June, 1735, and turnpiked in 1848. What is now known as the Ridge road was opened in 1766, and commenced at a corner of Detrich Rudy's land, on the Bucks County line thence through the present Tylersport, by lands of William Mayberry, deceased, Frederick Wentz, Woolrich Hertzell, Philip Zeigler, John Eck, Widow Philmon, Bastian Heap, Valentine Boyer, Jacob Landis, John Gans and George Doctor; thence through Sumneytown, Perkiomenville, Fagleysville, terminating near the present Sanitoga Station on the Schuylkill. John Hildebidle and Philip Wentz were township supervisors in 1767, Richard Klein in 1773, Valentine Kratz and Michael Scholl in 1776, Frederick Berndt and Abraham Scholl in 1810. John Eck was constable in 1767, Adam Hildebidle in 1774, and Philip Gable assessor and George Frederick collector in 1776.

In the assessment for 1776 mention is made of John Bergy owning 180 acres and a grist and saw-mill; Jacob Graff, 200 acres and a fulling-mill; Ludwig Moyer, 50 acres and a grist-mill; George Moyer, 50 acres and a grist and saw-mill; Henry Deetz, 125 acres and a grist and saw-mill; Jacob Kulp, 88 acres and a fulling-mill; Daniel Heister, 130 acres and a tannery; Robert Coleman, ironmaster, one servant and ten horses; Conrad Epler, forgeman; Godfrey Kersneck and Henry Croll, saddlers; John Brown and Sebastian Nell, smiths; Henry Sauder, weaver; George Walt, tailor; William Antich, shoemaker; and Joseph Warner, fuller. Jacob Graff's fulling-mill is now the property of Jesse Zeigler, at Salford Station, and Jacob Kulp's fulling-mill was on the Ridge Valley Creek, about a mile from Sumneytown, on the property now owned by William Nice. A licensed inn was kept by Michael Croll in 1767, by Philip Gable from 1776 on to 1790, by Jacob Rudy in 1790, and by Frederick Rudy, Peter Wagoner and Jacob Croll in 1807.

On the east side of the turnpike, close to Ridge Valley Creek, stands a fine brick house bearing the date of 1757, and now the property of D. Krouse. A new slate roof has been recently put on it by the present proprietor, and its walls appear durable enough to last at least another century. Nicholas Scull, in his

map of Pennsylvania, published in 1759, thought it of sufficient importance to have it denoted thereon as "Heister's." This was the property of Daniel Heister, a native of Elsoff, in Westphalia, who arrived in Pennsylvania in 1737 with his brother Joseph, having been preceded a few years by his elder brother, John. Daniel settled on this tract, which was then known as Goshenhoppen, and raised a family of four sons and one daughter. He was rated for holding here, in 1776, one hundred and thirty acres of land, one negro, three horses, three cows and a tannery. He died in 1795, aged eighty-two years, and was the uncle of Governor Joseph Heister. Daniel Heister's sons were John, Daniel, Gabriel and William, who were born on this homestead. They all served in the army of the Revolution, the first three being officers. John and Daniel Heister afterwards became members of Congress, the former from Chester and the latter from Berks County, where they had removed.

From 1785 to 1807 Upper Salford belonged to the Third Election District, and the people voted at Creps' tavern at the present village of New Hanover Square, distant from the central part of this township about six miles, and having to cross the Perkiomen, which at this period was bridged. In 1838 it was placed in the Fifth District, voting at the house of John Hartmanft, Sumneytown. In July, 1878, the township, from its great length, was divided into two districts, called East Upper Salford, voting at Tylersport, and West Upper Salford, voting at Mechanicsville.

Tylersport is the largest village, and is situated in the northern part of the township, near the Bucks County line. It contains a store, hotel, post-office, meeting-house and about fifty houses, and, according to the census of 1880, two hundred and twenty-four inhabitants. In 1849 the place contained only a few houses. R. R. Cressman carries on extensively the manufacture of segars; his taxes on the same for 1882 amounted to twenty-seven thousand seven hundred and seven dollars. There are here also several mechanic shops.

Salfordville contains a store, hotel, post-office and nineteen houses. T. W. Cressman has a cigar manufactory here, besides the usual mechanic shops. A creamery has been recently established about a quarter of a mile to the northeast of the village. This place in 1858 possessed eleven houses. It was at the upper end of this village where Michael Coll, in 1767, kept an inn and owned a farm of two hundred and sixty acres. He was long a justice of the peace, and died about 1810.

Mechanicsville contains one hotel, a restaurant, hall, shoe shop, wheelwright-shop, store and twelve houses. At the north or upper end of this village a splendid view is offered of the Oley Hills, Methacton, and of Bucks County for many miles. The elections for West Upper Salford are held at this place. About half a mile west of this is the Methodist Episcopal

Church, built about 1858. It has no regular stationed minister. It was at the sign of the "Black Horse" here where Jacob and Frederick Rudy so long kept an inn. This village formerly bore the name of Croppa Stettle, or Crowtown.

Salford Station, on the Perkiomen Railroad, contains a merchant mill, a grain and feed-store, coal-yard and five or six houses. Rudy post-office has recently been established here, called after the late Samuel D. Rudy, sheriff of the county in 1856-59. Branchville contains a store, hotel, several mechanic shops and three houses.

The Old Goshenhoppen Church.—This long-established place of worship is situated but little over half a mile northeast of Salford Station and nearly midway between Salfordville and Mechanicsville. It dates back nearly to the early settlement of this section, when the country for miles around was only known as Goshenhoppen, and hence applied to denote the locality of this church, and which it has ever since retained. The settlers of the Lutheran and German Reformed faith united, in 1732, to procure by warrant a tract of land, upon which they erected a log school-house in the fall of that year, which was also used as a place of worship. However, the tract was not surveyed until January 26, 1737, when thirty-eight and one-quarter acres, with allowances, were taken up for the express purpose mentioned, and the deed recorded the following 7th of February. Michael Royer, on the part of the Lutherans, and Jacob Keller, for the German Reformed, made final payment for the same January 12, 1738, the cost being £8 9s. 3d., equivalent to \$23.34 of our present currency.

As the German Reformed members were without a pastor, they worshiped together in the aforesaid building until the spring of 1744, when it was decided to proceed to the erection of a church. The masons commenced their work the 9th of May, and on the following 14th the corner-stone was laid. It was erected that year, but the interior wood-work was not finished until 1748. An agreement was made with a carpenter to complete the same for fifteen pounds, which included a gallery, pews, benches and painting. The pulpit was made by Gabriel Schuler, of Lower Salford, as a present to the church. The expense incurred in the erection of the building is not exactly known, the members doing considerable of the work without charge. At the settlement, in 1751, a debt of thirty pounds remained, which was subsequently paid off. The building committee on the part of the Lutherans was composed of Michael Reyer, Balthasar Gerlach, John Philip Gable and Conrad Schneider; and for the German Reformed, Christian Schneider, Christian Lehman, Bernhard Arndt and John Servier. The first Lutheran elders were John Michael Reisser and John Philip Gabel; Deacons, William Ganckler and John Lenhart Durkheimer. The German Reformed elders were Jacob Hauck and John Getz. Deacons, Isaac Summers and Andreas Ohl.

The first Lutheran members of this congregation were Conrad Schneider, John Martin Derr, Elias Long, John William Daub, John Jacob Nuss, John George Weikel, Heinrich Schmidt, Isaac Klein, John Klein, George Weikel, John Christopher Bickel, Ludwig Adam Bickel, John Jacob Fillman, Philip Fillman and John George Wagner. The German Reformed members were Jacob Hlauck, John Getz, Gabriel Schuler, Heinrich Bomberger, Daniel Kuster, Jacob Iselt, Samuel Schuler, Jost Keller, John Nice, Christian Hollebush, Peter Hollebush, John Faust, John Knouss, Nicholas Wolfart, Frederick Getz, Christopher Dickenscheit. The pastor's book commences in 1751, and the entries since have been made by the several clergymen. Mr. Raus, who commenced the record, was evidently a well-educated man, his writing being excellent, and on the title-page he made a considerable inscription in Hebrew characters. In 1751 there were forty-six

Rev. John Wm. Ingold, 1780-81; Rev. Frederick Dilleker, 1781-84; Rev. Frederick Wm. Vonder Schlotte, 1784-86; Rev. John Thomas Faber, Jr., 1786-88; Rev. Albert Helfenstein, 1808-11; Rev. Albert Zent, six months in 1811; Rev. Frederick Wm. Vonder Schlotte, Jr., 1812-18; Rev. Jacob Wm. Dechant, 1818-33; Rev. Andreas Hoffman, 1833-56; Rev. Robert Vancourt, 1856-63; Rev. Augustus L. Dechant, since 1863.

The school-house mentioned, in which worship was first held, stood until 1808, when it was torn down and another erected in its place. The first church was built of stone, two stories high, and in dimensions fifty by thirty-five feet. After standing above one hundred and thirteen years, it was resolved by the two congregations to tear it down in the spring of 1858 and erect a larger and more commodious building in its place. The writer of this account, learning



THE OLD GOSHENHOPPEN CHURCH.

members composing the two denominations. The Lutheran population was estimated at one hundred and ninety-five and the German Reformed one hundred and five.

The congregation was originally formed by the Rev. J. Conrad Andreas, an expelled Lutheran clergyman in Germany, who, without any recommendation so insinuated himself into their confidence as to become their pastor, but who was soon after discharged for immoral conduct. The first regular Lutheran minister was the Rev. Lucas Raus, from 1751-53; Rev. Frederick Schultz, 1753-59; Rev. John Joseph Roth, 1759-71; Rev. Frederick Neimier, 1771-72; Rev. Conrad Roeller, 1772-95; Rev. Frederick Geisenhainer, 1795-97; Rev. John George Roeller, son of Conrad, 1797-1840; Rev. Engelbrecht Peixto, 1841-64; Rev. Frederick Waltz, from 1865 to the present time. The first German Reformed pastor was Rev. Jacob Reisz, 1751-66; Rev. John Thomas Faber, 1766-80;

this, proceeded hither a few weeks previous on purpose and made a drawing of the same, which has since been ascertained to be the only one extant. By the 1st of May it was leveled to the ground, and in the corner-stone was found two silver coins, one dated 1652 and the other 1695. The former proved to be the pine-tree shilling of Massachusetts and the other an English shilling bearing the head of William III. A pint bottle contained a tasteless yellow fluid which it was supposed had been wine. All these were replaced in the corner-stone of the new building, which was laid, with appropriate ceremonies, May 15th and 16th of said year. The church was completed by the close of 1858, and is a fine two-story stone structure, sixty-two by fifty feet in size, with a spire one hundred feet high, the total cost of which was six thousand one hundred dollars. The church is calculated to hold about eight hundred persons. It possesses a fine organ, made in 1837 by A. Krauss

& Son, of Allentown. The bell is of five hundred and thirty-seven pounds weight, and can be heard from its elevated position for some distance around. There is an ample churchyard and sheds for horses and carriages, besides a shady, unfenced woods of several acres adjoining.

The graveyard contains about five acres, and few in the county can surpass it in the number of its tombstones. The oldest graves are near the centre of the yard. The earliest inscription observed was that of "1745, H W B H." One is said to be here bearing the date of 1733. It has been stated on reliable authority that seventy-two persons have been buried here, killed by powder-mill explosions in this vicinity previous to 1859. Three Revolutionary soldiers are known to be interred here,—John Andrew Artman who died in 1843, aged eighty-six years; John Sallide and Jacob Schaeffer, in 1840. The ground here is hard to dig, being composed of a shelly, red slate-stone. The following surnames were copied within the ample inclosure: Fliieger, Schneider, Geisinger, Hiltbidle, Groff, Wagner, Ruckstuhl, Cope, Humel, Langbein, Schuler, Mayer, Geyer, Heebner, Lunn, Hertz, Hoeffcker, Musselman, Gabel, Gerges, Klein, Boyer, Grimley, Smith, Scholl, Walt, Shied, Miller, Bock, Hillegass, Detweiler, Wambold, Fried, Weishe, Ried, Roudenbush, Gerhab, Borneman, Kehs, Daub, Richards, Meyers, Hutt, Wail, Neidig, Reiman, Zepp, Cressman, Nyce, Pannapacker, Kerr, Ratzel, Shade, Zink, Jacoby, Ache, Johnson, Neitz, Wohlfard, Dietz, Hauberger, Schwartley, Schell, Wandelich, Reichert, Fillman, Sallade, Zeigler, Weidemeier, Erdman, Bibighaus, Schwartz, Kerwer, Schwenk, Wirth, Roeller, Mayberry, Ettinger, Steiner, Bout, Roshong, Hendricks, Dietz, Ochs, Liedtke, Underkoffler, Sheib, Wisler, Koppelberger, Souder, Kuhlman, Anderson, Herbst, Adrian, Seit, Rahn, Kneezel, Keyser, Faust, Long, Kolb, Slefier, Schäfer, Emert, Brev, Cressman, Kemerer, Hartranft and Troll.

John Eck and Reminiscences of his Family.—Jacob Eck, the ancestor of the family in this county, with his son John, arrived from Baselbede, in Alsace, possibly in 1746 or near the beginning of the following year. He was by occupation a locksmith, and perhaps a widower, his son being then a young man and single. The father took up by patent in Upper Salford, in two tracts, one hundred and twenty-five acres. The survey was made June 3, 1747, and the deed given April 6th of said year, under the great seal, by Governor George Thomas. The cost of the land was £19 7s. 6d., under a yearly quit-rent of a half-penny sterling for every acre, payable on the 1st day of March at the manor of Springettsbury, near the city of Philadelphia. This tract lay near the northern part of the township, within Ridge Valley and near the present Dietz's grist and saw-mill. Here the father and son at once commenced the first improvements, not only in building, but in clearing the land to render the same fit for tillage.

It is likely that within the first ten years Jacob Eck died and the son inherited the property and took in marriage for his first wife Savina Ott, the daughter of a neighboring farmer. She died before 1764, leaving him several children, when he married Mary Snyder, who died a short time before the Revolution, for in the assessment of Upper Salford for 1776, John Eck, who it is noted had ten children and had "lost his wife," is rated as owning one hundred and twenty-five acres, with a dwelling, two horses, three cows and five sheep, taxed £10 7s. 8d. In 1766 the Ridge road was opened from the Bucks County line, through the present Tylersport and along the whole length of his farm on to Sumneytown. In 1767 he was appointed, greatly against his will, by the Court of Quarter Sessions at Philadelphia, constable of the township. About the close of the Revolution he married Dorothy Yost, who survived him. He died in the beginning of June, 1809, at an advanced age.

His will was made January 30th and proven June 20th of said year. In it he appoints his son Dorus and Nicholas Buck his executors. He leaves to his son John twenty-five acres, with all the improvements thereon; to Dorothy, his wife, in addition to her other allowances, he leaves "£150 in lawful gold or silver money." Eleven children are mentioned therein, as follows: Conrad, Dorus, John, Anna (widow of Martin Miller), Catharine (wife of Simon Adams), Margaret (wife of Joseph Storm), Magdalena (wife of Nicholas Buck), Sabilla (wife of Mark Zeigler), Theresa, Catharine and Fanny. He had in all fifteen children, a son, Michael, and three daughters having previously died. Although the surviving descendants of John Eck at this day may number thousands, the surname has become extinct in the township within the past sixty years. Dorus settled on a farm in Maryland, some moved to Berks County, others to Philadelphia and out West. The witnesses to the will were John Keller, Jacob Bäer, and Cadwallader Foulke, the last of whom very probably wrote it. Through the descendants of the first two, who still exist in the vicinity, the homestead of the Ecks was ascertained and visited in September, 1883, in company with Solomon K. Grimley, Esq.

The original tract has since been divided into several farms, now owned by Henry Richards, Andrew Loch, William L. Nace, Thomas Roth and Frederick Beltz. The latter, who is the owner of the original homestead portion, took pleasure, on learning our object, to point out the several remaining objects of interest. The site of the old house is still readily discernible about two hundred yards northwest of Mr. Beltz's dwelling, within a few yards of which are still standing two venerable pear-trees, about two feet in diameter, the fruit of which was then ripe. We do not question that their growth must have begun very close to 1747, or one hundred and thirty-six years ago. The spring was shown, about one hundred and fifty yards to the north of the site of the old house. Though

now long unused, except for cattle, it never has been known to fail. Strange to say, the original barn still remains in use, and must now be one of the very few existing in the county that antedate the Revolution. It is part stone and part log, thirty by forty-two feet and we know of no other that has so old and primitive an appearance. In the beginning of this century John Eck built himself a new house, to which he retired, and died in 1809, the site of which was also pointed out, and is still discernible on the premises of William L. Nace.

Mary Magdalena was the daughter of John Eck and his second wife, Mary Snyder, born on the homestead in June, 1767, where she remained until her marriage, in 1793, with Captain Nicholas Buck, a native of Springfield township, Bucks Co., and the founder of Bucksville. She attained the age of nearly ninety-one years, and at her death left ninety-five living descendants. Her memory remained unimpaired almost to the last. In 1856 her reminiscences were written down by one of her grandsons, and that portion relating to her residence in Upper Salford will be briefly given. In the vicinity of Jacob and John Eck's settlement here, in 1747, deer still abounded, of which several were shot by the latter. Wolves were becoming scarce, but occasionally destroyed sheep. Wild fruit was abundant, as grapes, red plums, hazel-nuts, shell-barks, huckleberries and crab-apples. Her father raised considerable hemp and flax, which was manufactured by the family into goods for household and other purposes, their clothing being all home-made. The women assisted considerably in out-door labors connected with the farm, and all grain was reaped by sickles, even corn and buckwheat. Her father kept a heavy farm-wagon, but the produce was chiefly taken in panniers and wallets, on horseback, to Philadelphia. Rye was chiefly grown for bread, as in Germany, with which beans were ground to increase the quantity. While Washington and his army were encamped by the Skippack, in Towamencin, seven miles distant, her father drove down with his wagon, taking her and several of his children along to behold so novel a sight. The incidents connected therewith she often related, being at that time past her tenth year. In connection with those reminiscences one fact is remarkable, that though John Eck reared so large a family, and was entirely dependent on his farming operations for a subsistence, yet, with all the disadvantages he labored under and the aid given his children, the inventory of his estate, which is still preserved, shows that his effects amounted to above eight thousand dollars, which was no inconsiderable sum three-quarters of a century ago, originating from such limited means, and may raise a query whether farming may not have then been more profitable than now.

ASSESSMENT OF UPPER SALFORD, 1776.

Philip Gable, assessor, and George Frederick, collector.

John Bergy, 180 acres, 3 horses, 5 cows and a grist and saw-mill; George Slotterer, 200 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Jacob Wagoner, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Frederick Rudy, 180 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Philip Gable, Jr., inn-keeper, 260 a.,

4 h., 5 c. and 1 servant; Christian Haldeman, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Philip Zeigler, 376 a., 5 h., 6 c.; George Frederick, 100 a., 4 h., 8 c.; Henry Landis, 75 a., 3 h., 7 c.; John Cline, 40 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Adam Hildebidle, 145 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Abraham Cassel, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Frederick May, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Groff, 207 a., 4 h., 6 c. and a fulling-mill; Philip Fisher, 120 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Conrad Grim, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Valentine Nungesser, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; Leonard Snyder, 150 a., 2 h., 3 c. and 7 children; Godfrey Kersneck, saddler, 55 a., 2 c.; Henry Streaker, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Charles Derr and Henry Kepple, 160 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Brown, blacksmith, 2 c.; Henry Hersch, 160 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Michael Kroll, inn-keeper, 260 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Richard Cline, 150 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Eck, 125 a., 2 h., 3 c., 10 children, and lost his wife; Ulrich Hertzell, 128 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Foust, 140 a.; Christian Reiff, 1 c.; Caspar Walt, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Hoot, 125 a., 3 h., 6 c.; Dorothy Weishey, widow, 50 a., 1 c.; Margaret Wentz, widow, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c. and 6 children; Martin Leightle, 50 a., 1 h., 3 c.; Abraham Krider, 1 c.; Ludwig Moyer, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c. and a grist-mill; George Moyer, 50 a., 2 h., 3 c. and a grist and saw-mill; Dewalt Nace, 375 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Henry Walt, 250 a., 2 h., 3 c. and 9 children; Philip Wentz, 185 a., 2 h., 4 c.; George Hertzell, 430 a., 4 h., 10 c.; John Fillman, 2 h. and 150 a. for his father's estate; Sebastian Heap, 10 a.; John Nice, 100 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jost Martin, 120 a., 3 h., 3 c.; John Oberholtzer, 158 a., 3 h., 4 c.; Jacob Landis, 150 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Michael Young, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Henry Moyer, 180 a., 4 h., 8 c. and 8 children; George Wyant, 50 a., 3 c., old and poor; Hans Ulrich, stover, 200 a., 3 h., 8 c. and 8 children; Henry Dietz, 125 a., 2 h., 4 c. and a grist and saw-mill; Jacob Kulp, 88 a., 2 h., 4 c. and a fulling-mill; Adam Smith, 40 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Daniel Heister, tanner, 130 a., 1 negro, 3 h., 3 c.; Frederick Koch, 2 c.; Elizabeth Wentz, widow, 100 a., 2 h., 1 c.; Valentine Kratz, 150 a., 2 h., 5 c.; Jacob Daub, smith, 60 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Jacob Ellinger, 12 a., 1 c.; Sebastian Nill, smith, 2 c.; Henry Sander, weaver, 2 c.; Elizabeth Wentz, widow, 62 a., 1 c.; William Zirkle, 2 c.; Henry Zeigler, 1 h., 2 c.; Robert Coleman, iron-master, 10 h., 4 c., 1 servant; Conrad Epler, forgerman, 1 c.; Jacob Cline, 110 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Landis, Jr., 2 h., 4 c.; George Walt, tailor, 2 c.; Martin Riddlemier, 1 c.; William Antick, shoemaker, 2 c.; Henry Hass; Peter Wentz, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Wyant, 1 c.; Christian May; Peter Gerhart, 1 h., 3 c.; Henry Strowman, 1 c.; Joseph Warner, fuller, 1 c.; Henry Croll, saddler, 1 c.; Jacob Young, Philip Renn. *Single Men*.—Killian Fisher, Jacob Fillman, Dewalt Young, Adam Shearer, Henry Foust, George Landis, Michael Swartz, Christian Martin, Valentine Kooker, Abraham Groff, Christopher Streaker, Wilder Bevans, John Moyer, Andrew Zeigler, Christian Bergy, Henry Hartinstine, Anthony Treale, Wendle Wentz, John Nice, Valentine Snyder, Daniel Murray, Peter Kepple, John Landis and Michael Derr.

CHAPTER LXXIX.

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP.¹

WHITEMARSH is bounded on the northeast by Upper Dublin, southeast by Springfield, southwest by the Schuylkill and Conshohocken, west by Plymouth and northwest by Whitpain. Its length is six and one-fourth miles and breadth two and one-half, and it contains an area of eight thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven acres. In 1850, by the erection of Conshohocken into a borough, its territory was reduced three hundred and twenty acres, but by a change of the boundary line, in 1876, about one hundred and sixty acres were added from Springfield township along the Schuylkill. The surface is rolling and the soil generally of a superior quality, being a rich loam, with an abundance of excellent limestone. Edge Hill extends through this township a distance of two

¹ By William J. Buck.

and a half miles, and crosses the Schuylkill below Spring Mill. It is a singular circumstance that no limestone, iron or marble is found anywhere on the south side of this hill. Barren Hill, Militia Hill and Camp Hill are well-known elevations that figure in our Revolutionary history, but do not extend to any length.

Whitemarsh possesses several fine lasting streams of water. The Wissahickon Creek rises from two small branches in Montgomery township, and then flows through Gwynedd, Whitpain, Upper Dublin, Whitemarsh and Springfield townships into the Schuylkill, nearly a mile below Manayunk. Its total length is about nineteen miles, of which thirteen are in this county and three and a half in this township. It is an excellent mill-stream, being steady, copious and rapid in its current. Its principal branches are Valley Run and Sandy Run. At a very early period the Wissahickon was used for mill purposes, a grist-mill having been erected on it by Edward Farmar very near the beginning of the last century. On Holme's map of original surveys it is called "Whitpaine's Creek," after Richard Whitpaine, a large land-holder on this stream in the present township of Whitpain. In the Upland Court records for 1677 it is called "Wiessahitkonk," which, according to Heckewelder, in the Delaware Indian language, signifies the "catfish or yellow-water stream." Sandy Run has a course of upwards of a mile through the east corner of the township, and empties into the Wissahickon below Fort Washington. It is a clear, spring-water stream, abounding in native trout, and propels a grist-mill and an auger-factory. We know from records that it bore its present name in 1703, if not earlier.

After Lower Merion, Pottsgrove, Upper Providence and Upper Merion, Whitemarsh is the most populous township in the county. In 1800 its population was 1085; in 1840, 2079; and in 1880, 3239. The real estate for taxable purposes, in 1882, was valued at \$2,284,915, and including the personal, \$2,454,050; the average per taxable, \$2981, Montgomery, Upper Dublin and Towamencin being rated higher. In May, 1883, licenses were issued for six hotels, eleven general stores, two hardware-stores, four dealers in flour and feed, one lumber and two coal-yards. In 1858 it contained ten hotels, fifteen stores, six grist-mills, three furnaces, two marble-mills, one paper-mill and one auger-factory. In 1785 five inns, five grist-mills, three paper-mills and two tanneries are mentioned. The public schools are eleven in number, open ten months, with an average attendance of three hundred and one pupils for the school year ending June 1, 1882. In 1856 the township had eight public schools, open nine months. In 1880 a small portion of Whitemarsh was attached to Ambler School District. The census of 1850 returned 398 dwellings, 426 families and 149 farms. The villages are Barren Hill, Plymouth Meeting, Fort Washington, Spring Mill, Marble Hall, Lafayette, Lancasterville and Whitemarsh or Val-

ley Green. The first four places contain post-offices. Barren Hill has lately been changed to Lafayette Hill, and William Penn post-office is at Spring Mill. There are six houses of worship in Whitemarsh, namely,—one Episcopal, one Lutheran, one Lutheran and Reformed, one Friends', one Baptist and one Evangelical. Besides the common roads, which are numerous, five turnpikes traverse the township. The Norristown and Schuylkill Valley Railroads pass beside each other along its southwestern border upwards of two miles, with stations at Lafayette and Spring Mill; also the Schuylkill navigation for the same distance. The North Pennsylvania Railroad crosses the eastern angle near the Upper Dublin line for about a mile, with a station at Fort Washington. The Plymouth Railroad passes through its central part upwards of three miles, with stations at Plymouth Meeting, Williams and Flourtown. The Schuylkill Valley Railroad was commenced in 1883 and finished in the summer of 1884, extending from Philadelphia, through Norristown, to the coal regions.

Through the researches of Hon. William A. Yeakle it has been ascertained that the executors of Edward Farmar, in a deed of a portion of his estate, dated April 14, 1746, to George Greenfield, mention that it was a "part of the lands by the Indians called Umbilicamense." Through this information an additional discovery has been made in regard to an excursion on horseback by William Penn to view the country. In a bill of charges made out by Thomas Fairman, commencing in 1682, he states, among other items, of his being debtor "To a journey with the Proprietor and his friends to Umbolekemensin, with 3 of my horses, 12 shillings." This trip was no doubt made in 1683, as on August 12th of the following year he embarked for England. It was under these singular circumstances that we have been enabled to locate Umbilicamense, and prove that it was actually within the rich valley of the Wissahickon and not more than a mile from the centre of the township. Another interesting circumstance in this connection is the discovery of the origin of the name of Whitemarsh. In the petition of the inhabitants of Skippack and vicinity to the Court of Quarter Sessions, dated June 2, 1713, for a road, they state that it may be laid out "from the upper end of the said township down to the *wide marsh* or Farmar's Mill." At the latter place, by the Wissahickon, as is well known, there is an extremely broad, level expanse of meadow greatly subject to overflows, and we do not doubt, from its miry, wet nature at that early day, that it was known as the "wide marsh," which has needed but a slight change to convert it as now called. The settlement at this mill, too, has borne the name of Whitemarsh from the earliest period, Lewis Evans having thus denoted it on his map of the province published in 1749.

The Farmar family were the earliest and most extensive purchasers of land in Whitemarsh, as well as

the first of its settlers. Major Jasper Farmar was an officer in the British army and a resident of Cork, Ireland. Hearing of the advantages offered by William Penn in colonizing his province induced him to purchase from Penn, by a patent dated January 31, 1683, two tracts, containing together five thousand acres.¹ When all arrangements had been made for the voyage Major Farmar died, when his widow, Mary and children,—Edward, Sarah, John, Robert, Catharine, Charles, Jasper and Robert,—accompanied by Thomas Farmar, Catharine Farmar (widow), Elizabeth Farmar, Edward Batsford and servants Joanna Daly, Philip Mayow and Helen his wife, John Mayow, John Whitlow, Nicholas Whitlow, Thomas Young and his wife, William Winter, George Fisher, Arthur Smith, Thomas Alferry, Henry Wells, Robert Wilkinson, Elizabeth Mayow, Martha Mayow, Sarah Burke, Sheele Oeeven, Andrew Walbridge, all from Ireland, embarked on the ship "Bristol Merchant," John Stephens, master, and arrived at Philadelphia November 10, 1685. In the same ship also arrived Nicholas Scull and his servants Samuel Hall, Cornelius Davye, George Gooding, Miles Morin, Daniel Morin, John Ward and Mary Cantwell. All these must have soon after their arrival settled on the aforesaid purchase, which it is likely had not been long located. It appears from the colonial records that John Scull, as overseer for the Farmar family, had settled on the tract with a number of servants several months before their arrival, probably with a view to the immediate erection of buildings and other improvements and preparations in advance of their coming. Complaint was made by Indians to the Governor's Council, July 21, 1685, that the servants on Jasper Farmar's place had made them drunk and abused them. A warrant was issued and sent out by a messenger, who, after being lost in the woods, returned, when it was deferred. When the time arrived the servants made their appearance, but the Indians did not appear as accusers, and so the matter was probably dropped. This would show that in the immediate vicinity there must have then existed an Indian settlement, and from this circumstance Edward Farmar acquired his knowledge of the Indian language which enabled him, in May, 1701 and 1712, to perform for the government the duties of an interpreter.

¹ Since this article was written we have secured the following interesting document, which has not heretofore been published:

"L. S.: William Penn, Proprietary and Governor of Pennsylvania and the Territories thereunto belonging. At the request of Jasper Farmar, Junior, in the behalf of his father, Major Jasper Farmar, his brother Richard and himself, that I would grant him to take up 5000 acres of land, being of the lands by the Indians called Umbilicamence, fronting at one end upon the River Schuylkill. These are to will and require thee forthwith to survey or cause to be surveyed unto him the said five thousand acres in the aforementioned place where not already taken up, according to the method of townships appointed by me, and make return thereof unto my Secretary's office. Given at Philadelphia the 31st of the 10th month, 1683.

"WM. PENN.

"FOR THOMAS HOLMES, Surveyor-General."

As legatee of her husband's estate, Madame Farmar, as she was usually called, and Catharine, wife of Jasper Farmar, deceased, made a partition of the estate, by which one-half of the five thousand acres under the will became in fee her property and the other one-half that of her two sons, Richard and Jasper Farmar, Jr. Shortly after this Richard disposed of his share, one thousand two hundred and fifty acres, to Thomas Webb, who sold his interest to Madame Farmar, who, by will, devised the whole to her son Edward Farmar, who thus became the owner of three-fourths of the original purchase. The mother, prior to 1690, married a gentleman by the name of Billop, of Philadelphia, and must have died within a few years thereafter. Respecting this lady, Chief Justice Nicholas More mentioned, in a letter dated from his residence at Green Spring, in the manor of Moreland, September 13, 1686, to William Penn, then in England, that "Madame Farmar has found out as good limestone on the Schuylkill as any in the world, and is building with it; she offers to sell ten thousand bushels at sixpence the bushel upon her plantation, where are several considerable hills, and near to your manor of Springfield." This would show that she must have been an energetic woman, and that probably the earliest lime from limestone used in Pennsylvania came from her kilns, at what has been so long known as the village of Whitemarsh.

Edward Farmar was one of the early noted men that settled in this county, and, judging from his penmanship, must have received a good education in his



SEAL OF EDWARD FARMAR.

youth, which eminently qualified him for the important trusts he afterwards assumed. The family, from purchasing here so much land, retaining so many servants and making the extensive improvements they did, must have been in affluent circumstances, at least wealthier than the majority of the early emigrants. At his arrival Edward Farmar was not fourteen years of age, and consequently did not attain his majority until in 1693. With John Sotcher, of Pennsbury, he was sent, in May, 1701, to the Lehigh River to ascertain the intentions of the Indians in that vicinity. He was commissioned a justice of the peace for Philadelphia County September 2, 1701, which office it is known he held continuously till or near the close of his life. Andrew

Hamilton, the Lieutenant-Governor, appointed him, with John Guest and Samuel Finney, justices of the court, February 23, 1703, for the trial of criminal cases. His settlement in Whitemarsh, we know in 1708, if not earlier, was called "Farmer's Town," and probably several years before this he had erected a grist-mill on the Wissahickon, which had an extended reputation in 1713. In 1710 he presented the lot of ground on which St. Thomas' Episcopal Church was built, besides taking an active part in its erection, for which he may be almost regarded as its founder. A council with the Indians was held at his house May 19, 1712, at which was present the Governor, Charles Gookin, and several of his friends, besides a number of Indians. The most prominent chiefs at this meeting were Sasoonan, Ealochelan and Scholitchy, the latter being the principal speaker, Mr. Farmer acting as interpreter. He was elected to the Assembly in 1710, and held the office almost continuously to 1732, and was also for several years one of the county commissioners. He died November 3, 1745, aged seventy-three years, and was buried in the graveyard of St. Thomas' Church, where a tomb is inscribed to his memory. From the Penn-Physick manuscripts we learn that he furnished lime and flour to Thomas and Richard Penn, at Springettsbury, at various times from 1735 to the period of his death. His extensive estate was settled by his son, Joseph Farmer, and Peter and Jonathan Robeson, who had married his daughters. Though once so numerous, the name of Farmer has now become extinct, not only in Whitemarsh, but probably in all the surrounding townships. Strange to say, in the assessment of Horsham township for 1702, the name of Edward Farmer is mentioned as holding a small farm there. From the similarity of names, it is very probable that he belonged to this family. Descendants exist through intermarriage in the families of Robeson, Shoemaker, Mitchell and Pierce.

From what has been stated, it appears the Scull family settled early here with the Farmers, and it has been supposed, from their intimacy, they were related. Nicholas Scull, who arrived here in 1685, made a purchase in the vicinity, in 1688, of four hundred acres, but which was not located until December 24, 1692. John Scull, who had arrived here previously as overseer for the Farmer family, was a brother of the aforesaid, and also came from Ireland. Nicholas Scull died in 1703, leaving a widow, Mary, and six sons,—Nicholas, Edward, Jasper, John, James and Joseph. Nicholas, the eldest son, and subsequently surveyor-general, was born in Whitemarsh, and, in 1708, married Abigail Heap. The latter was buried in the family ground on the south side of Camp Hill, now on the estate of Gillingham Fell, where a stone has been erected to her memory stating that she died May 21, 1753, aged sixty-five years. Her husband, it is said, was also buried here, and his head-stone was removed, but from attending circumstances, this is regarded as doubtful. Mr.

Scull as a land surveyor in his day had few equals, and could also speak the Indian language, which, in his youth, he had acquired here, acting on several occasions on behalf of the government as an interpreter. From what information we have been able to procure respecting him, he must have received a better education than was usually given at this early period of our colonial history. In 1722 he made the survey of the road leading from where is now Willow Grove to Governor Keith's residence, in Horsham, and from the latter place another road on the county line to York Road. He was sent, with his brother, John Scull, as interpreter, by Governor Gordon, in May, 1728, to hold a council with the Indians at Conestoga. This year, a disturbance happening between several Indians and whites residing in the vicinity of New Hanover township, he was sent with presents to pacify them, in which he was successful. He was sent on a similar errand to Shamokin in 1729. Mr. Scull, we know, in 1731 resided in Philadelphia, and for several years afterwards. In February, 1734, he was appointed deputy-surveyor for the counties of Philadelphia and Bucks. Governor Thomas, in May, 1740, sent him to the Minesinks to settle a difficulty between a white man and an Indian, by which the former was wounded, for which service the Assembly allowed him fifteen pounds. In October, 1744, he was commissioned sheriff of Philadelphia County, which office he held for several years. The Indians from Shamokin having visited Governor Thomas, in Philadelphia, in July, 1745, he again served as interpreter. Through ill health, William Parsons resigned the office of surveyor-general of Pennsylvania, when, June 14, 1748, Mr. Scull was appointed to fill his place, which he continued to hold to the close of his life,—a period of thirteen years. Dr. Franklin speaks of him, in his autobiography, as one who "loved books and sometimes made verses." In connection with George Heap he published "A Map of Philadelphia and Parts Adjacent" in 1750. In 1759 he had published a large map of the improved parts of Pennsylvania and Maryland, which, for correctness, far surpassed all previous ones. Mr. Scull died at an advanced age about the beginning of November, 1761, when his associate, John Lukens, of Horsham, was appointed his successor. Respecting Mr. Scull, Richard Peters, in a letter dated Philadelphia, May 11, 1753, wrote to Thomas Penn, that "though he is industrious and enjoys a good office, yet he has a large family and is not beforehand in the world." All efforts at finding some notice of his death in the Philadelphia newspapers at the time has proved unsuccessful.

By order of Thomas Penn, one of the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, the constables of the several townships of Philadelphia County were required to make a return of the names of all the land-holders, with the number of acres respectively held by them, and also of the tenants. This list was made out in

1734, and is called an "uncertain return," prepared by John Hyatt, but, in the absence of anything better or more reliable, possesses unusual interest at a particular period, when the country had been sufficiently settled to warrant the care of the government in the due enforcement of the laws. From said list, as pertaining to the township of Whitemarsh, the following forty-seven names have been copied: Edward Farmar; Jonathan Robeson; Edith Davis; John Klinkey, 150 acres; Henry Bartlestal, 170; Marchant Maulsby, 40; Nicholas Stiglitz, 150; Benjamin Charlesworth, 200; John Morris, 200; Jonathan Potts, 80; Samuel Gilkey, 50; Josiah White, 18; David Davis, 50; John Petty, 500; Margaret Nichols, 200; Francis Cawly, 50; David Hartly, 200; William Williams, 200; Frederick Stone, 150; Joseph Williams, 200; Adam Kitler, 170; Ludwig Knoos, 100; Walter Gahone, 100; Casper Simons, 50; Jacob Coltman, 50; Isaac Morris, 300; William Trotter, 100; James Stroud, 200. Tenants: John Anderson, Joseph Wooley, Evan Jones, John Scull, John Parker, Henry Rinkard, John Ramsey, Jr., Edward Stroud, John Ramsey, — Campbell, Henry Steward, Thomas Shepherd, William English, Jenkin Davis, John Patterson, Joseph Faris, John Coulson, Handle Hansell, Mathias Ignorance. It will be observed that no figures appear after the first three names, information probably being refused to evade a higher rate of taxation. The list serves as an aid in arriving at a knowledge of the early settlers, though no doubt the number of acres in most instances is given only in round numbers, without aiming at exactness.

The name of Robeson does not appear in Whitemarsh on the list of 1734, but the family were quite early settlers along the lower Wissahickon. Before the death of Edward Farmar, in 1745, Peter Robeson had married his daughter Sarah, and his nephew Jonathan Robeson, Jr., Catharine, a younger sister. Through this connection they came in possession of considerable real estate in the township. Peter Robeson's tract contained nine hundred and fifty-two acres on the Wissahickon, and was part of the tract which the Indians had called Umbilicamense. He sold a portion containing five hundred and fifty-two acres, March 4, 1755, to Anthony Williams, of Bristol township, for £1666 4s. 9d. Charles Williams, a descendant, still retains a valuable portion, that has ever since been in the family. Jonathan Robeson, in 1780, was assessed for two hundred and thirty-eight acres, a grist-mill, and three negroes, one riding-chair, five horses and four cattle. He is reported as having eleven children, who have numerous descendants in the county and elsewhere. Jonathan inherited the mill property now owned by Silas Cleaver, and a portion of the tract is comprised in the farms of John Cleaver and Thomas S. Phipps, adjoining. Among the sons were also Peter and Andrew Robeson. Judge Andrew Robeson, the ancestor of the family, died February 19, 1719-20, aged sixty-six years. Robeson

township, where he was a considerable land-holder, was called after him.

Adam Kitler, who is mentioned in the list of 1734 as owning one hundred and seventy acres of land, resided in the vicinity of the present Marble Hall, where buildings erected by him in 1743 are still standing. In 1745 he purchased additional land, which extended southward to Barren Hill Church. His name is mentioned in the assessment of 1780, and John Kitler, who may have been a son, as holding one hundred and sixteen acres. The former was buried in the Barren Hill graveyard. This tract has proved itself rich in marble and iron-ore; large quantities of both have been sent off to Philadelphia or to the neighboring works and furnaces.

In the list of 1734 we find the name of John Morris as holding here two hundred acres, and in Abington, at said date, Morris Morris, four hundred acres. It is a tradition that the family in Whitemarsh are descended from Evan Morris, who came from Wales and settled a mile east of Friends' Meeting-house, in Abington, and it may be, in consequence, that the aforesaid John and Morris Morris were his sons. Samuel Morris was a justice of the peace in Whitemarsh from 1745 to 1753 and an overseer of Plymouth Meeting.

He died in 1772, leaving an estate of three hundred and fifty acres, which descended to his brother Joshua, of Abington, long a member of Assembly. He donated a lot of land for a school-house and five hundred and thirty pounds in trust, the interest to be applied to the building and keeping the same in repair, which went into operation before 1790, and was long known as the Union School. In the assessment of 1780 the only names found in Whitemarsh are Samuel Morris, tanner, rated for twenty-nine acres, and Owen Morris, a single man.

In the northern part of the township, adjoining Upper Dublin, a tract of six hundred acres was taken up by the Free Society of Traders, who sold three hundred and ten acres of the same to John Jones, which was located by Jacob Taylor, surveyor-general, April 4, 1724. This descended by will to his son, John Jones, Jr., who, with Sarah, his wife, May 21, 1760, conveyed twenty and three-fourths acres, for £39 5s., to Abraham Houser, chair-maker. The original deed of this purchase was by the latter buried in the ground for greater safety while the British held possession of Philadelphia in 1777. When it was taken up the parchment was found to be almost entirely illegible through the effects of moisture, when the owner thereof called on Mr. Jones, "gentleman, of Philadelphia," who executed to him a new deed, bearing date November 14, 1793, wherein the aforesaid circumstances are related.

Abraham H. Carn, a descendant of Mr. Houser and the owner of said tract, possesses both the deeds, which are thus invested with singular interest, the latter having been executed a third of a

century later, denoting that the parties thereto had been favored with longevity.

The Scheetz family has been for some time in Whitemarsh, several members of which have been noted business men and held office in the county. It has been stated that John Jacob Scheetz, a minister of Crefelt, on the Rhine, was a member of the Frankfort Company, organized in 1683 to promote and encourage settlement from Germany. His son Henry was thus induced to come to Pennsylvania and first settled at Germantown, afterwards removing on a purchase in this township, where he spent the remainder of his days. This property was inherited by his son Henry Scheetz, who, in the assessment of 1780, is called a "paper-maker," and rated for owning a paper-mill and eighty acres of land. This mill he built in 1769, on Sandy Run, to which he added afterwards a grist-mill, which is still standing. It is said he also erected, at a later date, the paper-mill on the same stream, a short distance over the Springfield line, which is still in possession of the family. He was appointed a justice of the peace before the Revolution, and on the formation of Montgomery County commissioned, December 10, 1784, one of the justices of the Courts of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas. He died about 1794, leaving two sons, Henry and Justice. The latter was elected sheriff, serving in the office from 1816 to 1819.

General Henry Scheetz, son of the aforesaid Henry and Catharine Scheetz, was born at the homestead on Sandy Run, in Whitemarsh, in 1761. His education was received in the schools of the neighborhood. During the rebellion of John Fries, in 1798, the command of a county brigade was assigned him. When they arrived in the vicinity the affair had subsided; he returned and the troops disbanded. In 1805 he was elected a member of the Assembly, followed, in 1808, as one of the directors of the new poor-house. In September, 1811, was appointed by Governor Snyder major-general of the Second Division of the Pennsylvania militia. After the breaking out of the war with England he marched with his command to Marcus Hook and the protection of Dupont's powder-works, near Wilmington. After the unsuccessful attempt of General Ross on Baltimore the militia were recalled and discharged. In 1817, General Scheetz was elected one of the directors of the Montgomery Bank, at Norristown. He was appointed, in 1830, one of the six viewers for laying out the State road from New Hope, on the Delaware, through Doylestown, Norristown and West Chester, to the Maryland line. Though in his seventy-seventh year, he was elected, in 1837, one of the members from Montgomery County to frame a new Constitution for the State, the duties of which he faithfully performed. Having a competency, he retired from business, making his home in Valley Green, where he died September 4, 1848, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. The plain, substantial two-story house he occupied is still stand-

ing on the east side of the turnpike, near the Springfield line, above Flourtown, and is now owned by Samuel Van Winkle, Jr. He left nine surviving children, all by his first wife. His descendants are numerous, bearing the names of Scheetz, Hitner, Sechler, Wentz and Acuff. His daughter Catharine was married to Daniel Hitner, of Marble Hall, and was the mother of Daniel O. and Henry L. Hitner, long and well-known business men of the county.

Among the eminent teachers of the past may be mentioned Patrick Menan, a native of Ireland, who resided on a farm of fifty acres at the east corner of the cross-roads at the present Marble Hall. Here, in addition to school-teaching, he followed for a long time conveyancing and surveying. He wrote, in 1746, the deed for the old burying-ground near Williams' school-house and witnessed it, which indicates that he must have resided in the township some time previously. He was made one of its trustees in 1786. Among the pupils of his school can be mentioned General Andrew Porter and the eminent philosopher, David Rittenhouse; to attend, they came daily from the homes of their parents, in Norriton and Worcester, six miles distant. Through his instructions they made rapid progress in mathematics. In the assessment of 1780 he is reported as being "aged" and as keeping a horse. He died February 5, 1791, aged eighty years, and is interred in the graveyard mentioned, where a tombstone has been erected to his memory.

The road from Plymouth, through Whitemarsh, to the city was laid out quite early, as also that from the present village of Whitemarsh. The latter, we know, was opened in 1703. What is now known as the Reading or Manatawny road was laid out, fifty feet wide, from Wissahickon Mill to Edward Lane's, at the Perkiomen. In 1714 the Skippack road was opened, striking the road to the city at Farmar's mill, in the present village of Whitemarsh. What is now termed the Church road, leading from St. Thomas' Church to Oxford, was laid out in 1811. The Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike was completed in 1804, twenty-five miles in length, at a cost of two hundred and eighty-five thousand dollars, and solely built by individual subscription. In 1874 the company forfeited its charter through a suit with the city of Philadelphia, by which the latter was required to pay to the stockholders ninety-one thousand dollars, and the whole road made free to travel. Since said date the several townships in the county through which it passes are required to keep it in order. The Skippack road was turnpiked in 1855, and the Township Line road, from Plymouth Meeting to Upper Dublin, the same year.

The mill built by Edward Farmar, on the Wissahickon, before 1713, stood where the Gwynedd and North Wales and Philadelphia roads cross the Skippack. In 1722 a well-traveled pathway is mentioned leading from the present Bridge Point, on

the Neshaminy, below Doylestown, through Græme Park, to this mill, thus showing a necessity of coming hither for flour, a distance of thirteen miles, previous to said date. After the death of Edward Farmar it came in possession of Samuel Morris, thence to his brother, Joshua Morris, and next to his son-in-law, Isaac Mather, who erected the present mill and mansion-house. After his death it passed to William Miller, who owned it but a short time, when Samuel W. Comley became the possessor, who carried on milling for many years; next, Wm. H. Witte, from whom it passed to Charles Otterson, Esq., of Philadelphia, the present owner. A violent tornado visited this property in 1837, unroofing the buildings, twisting off the tops of trees and carrying them towards Camp Hill, on which occasion also a huge spiral column of water arose from the dam to a great height, dropping the fishes in the neighboring fields. Its fury was chiefly confined to this locality.

What was known as Joseph Lukens' grist-mill, near the Upper Dublin line, has been converted into a manufactory of woolen goods, but has not been in operation for some time. Before the Revolution it was owned by Daniel Morris. A grist-mill was erected on the Sandy Run, beside the Spring House turnpike, which has been converted into an auger factory, before 1850, by Albert Conard, and who still carries on the business. The mill now owned by Silas Cleaver is near the Springfield line, and has been greatly improved. He is now enabled, with the assistance of a steam-engine, added in 1882, to grind two hundred bushels of wheat per day. This mill was also originally built by Edward Farmar, on whose death it passed into the hands of his son-in-law, Peter Robeson, thence descended to his son Jonathan, after which William Dewees, Esq., became owner. About the beginning of this century it came in possession of Nicholas Kline, of Flourtown, who erected the present mill and was for some time its owner. There is also a grist-mill on the Wissahickon, three-quarters of a mile above this, belonging to J. B. Comly, the history of which we have not ascertained. The average volume of the Wissahickon, like that of other streams, by the removal of forests and the drainage and cultivation of the adjacent land for nearly two centuries, has been materially reduced.

On the farm lately owned by Lewis A. Lukens, near the Wissahickon, is an old burying-ground that deserves notice. It was used for this purpose in 1722 and most probably earlier. Samuel Farmar, a son of Edward, conveyed, by a deed dated September 2, 1746, half an acre of ground to Henry Bartleson, Peter Knight and James Stroud, for the purpose of a burying-ground and place of worship, for the consideration of five pounds Pennsylvania currency. Peter Knight, as the last surviving trustee, continued the trust, August 2, 1786, to George Hocker, Nicholas Kline, Patrick Menan, Peter Bartleson and Bartle Bartleson, for the object contemplated. For its better

preservation and care the whole was inclosed in a wall, which has now become greatly dilapidated. The earliest tombstone here containing an inscription is that of John Nicols Knight, who died December 29, 1729, aged forty years and ten months. It is of some size, deeply paneled, with antique-looking letters, which, for that early day, must have cost some labor as well as expense. Isaac Knight and Isaac Knight, Jr., who were land-holders in Abington in 1734, may have been relatives. A stone is inscribed to the memory of Elizabeth Bartleson, who died March 24, 1769, aged sixty, and another to Bartle Bartleson, deceased February 17, 1777, aged eighty years. The names of Trump, Menan, Siddon, Hench, Coleman, Mason and Bilger are also found here. A number of the graves are unmarked, which, of course, cannot now be ascertained. Among those were some of the Kline family and George Heydrick. That no house of worship was built here, as originally designed, was probably owing to the erection of Barren Hill Church, in 1761.

On the main roads passing through this township from the northwestward, and leading to Philadelphia, there was, before the introduction of railroads, a great amount of travel, which, of course, necessitated a use for inns. From the records we learn that Joseph Norris was licensed in 1773 and James Stringer in 1774; in 1778, Conrad Bean, Jacob Hauser, George Hitner and Isaac Lyle. Besides Bean and Lyle, the following year the names of Ludwig Dagen, Frederick Houseman and Andrew Gilkison are mentioned. In 1785 five public-houses were licensed; four of these were kept by George Daub, George Eckhart, Christian Steer and Ludwig Dagen. Conrad Bean kept at Barren Hill and George Eckhart at Whitemarsh, where the elections were so long held. Sandy Run tavern was advertised for sale in 1809, with stabling for one hundred horses; it has recently ceased as a public-house. George Streepert advertises the "Rising Sun" tavern for sale, on the Ridge road in 1810, eleven miles from the city. The stand of George Eckhart, on the Spring House turnpike, must have been an old and noted one. It was kept by a Mr. Bisbing; next by Philip Sellers, who was here at least in 1811 and continued in the business until after 1829. He kept the post-office here in 1816, and was sheriff from 1819 to 1822. Jacob W. Haines afterwards became the owner and kept it and the post-office many years. On coming into the possession of William H. Witte, of Philadelphia, who moved here, he converted it into a private dwelling, which it still remains.

Among those who held township offices in the past may be mentioned Nicholas Stiglitz, collector in 1721, and Peter Robeson in 1742; Samuel Morris, appointed, in 1745, justice of the peace, as successor to Edward Farmar; John Kitler and Jacob Edge, supervisors in 1767, John Kitler and James White in 1773, Joseph Lukens and George Freas in 1785, and in 1810, Jacob Gilbert and Andrew Fisher. Samuel

Williams was constable in 1774; John Bower collector and Leonard Streep assessor in 1780. From the assessment of 1780 we get some additional information. The manufacture of paper was then carried on by Henry Scheetz, Henry Katz, William Kagge and Jacob Hagge, in four paper-mills, showing that this was quite an industry. Jonathan Robeson, Evan Meredith and Joseph Paul carried on grist-mills; the latter, in addition, a saw-mill. Christopher Shupart is mentioned as having in operation two stills, and Leonard Kulp one, probably for the manufacture of apple whiskey. We next find the names of Henry Kuntzman and Peter Streep, smiths; Samuel Morris, tanner; Jacob Jones and William Fitzgerald, teachers; Richard Maers, millwright; Jacob Cook, weaver; Samuel McCool, James White and Benjamin Krouse, tailors; John Clinton, Robert Kane, Henry Seabolt and Israel Everly, shoemakers. William West is rated for two hundred and eighty acres, part of the property being now owned by Thomas Wentz. Anthony Williams' estate of four hundred and seventy acres, in tenure of Isaac Williams, is now chiefly owned by Charles Williams; Joseph McClain, two hundred and thirty acres, now partly comprised in the Sheaff estate; Evan Meredith rented three hundred acres and a grist-mill from Robert Walls. The latter is now Eberhart Flues' woolen manufactory, near Fort Washington.

Whitemarsh is rich in Revolutionary associations, and on its hills are still to be seen the remains of redoubts and entrenchments erected in that memorable struggle. While the British held possession of the city they made several excursions out here, and the damages thus committed upon the people of the township were estimated by commissioners appointed for the purpose at six hundred and sixty-one pounds. The large stone building used by Washington as his headquarters is still standing in Upper Dublin township about half a mile over the line, owned by Charles K. Aimen, and may be seen from the passing cars on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, just above Sandy Run Station. The army was encamped here from about October 20th to December 11, 1777, when they proceeded on their march to Valley Forge for winter-quarters. From his autobiography we learn that Col. Samuel Miles, in 1774, removed from Philadelphia to a farm he purchased at Spring Mill. While here he took an early and active part in opposition to the arbitrary proceedings of the British government. He states that the second company of militia raised in Pennsylvania for the service was organized by him in Whitemarsh, and that he commanded forces raised in Whitemarsh, Plymouth and Germantown. At the battle of Long Island he was taken a prisoner and retained above two years before being exchanged, when he returned to his farm to recruit himself after his long and severe confinement. He shortly afterwards sold his place and removed to Cheltenham, where he died in 1805, in the history of which town-

ship additional particulars are given concerning him.

Before the Revolution the electors, not only of this township, but of the whole county, voted at the inn opposite the State-House, in Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. By an act passed June 14, 1777, the elections of this and all adjoining townships were required to be held at the public-house of Jacob Coleman, in Germantown. After the erection of Montgomery County an act of Assembly was passed, September 13, 1785, which divided the same into three districts, and the freemen of the townships of Whitemarsh, Springfield, Cheltenham, Abington, Moreland, Horsham, Upper Dublin, Gwynedd, Montgomery, Towamencin, Hatfield, Lower Salford and Franconia were required to hold their elections at the tavern of George Eckhart, in the present village of Whitemarsh. By an increase of the number of districts, in 1797, the townships voting here were reduced to Whitemarsh, Springfield, Upper Dublin and Horsham. This district in October, 1802, polled 476 votes. In 1838 the townships of Whitemarsh, Upper Dublin and Springfield still voted here, the house, being then kept by Jacob W. Haines. Springfield continued voting here until 1847, when the elections of that township were ordered to be held at Flourtown. By an act of Assembly passed April 18, 1853, the elections were ordered to be held at Barren Hill. By a decree of the court, July 2, 1875, Whitemarsh was divided into two districts, to be called the Eastern and Western, the elections of the former to be held at the Clifton House, at Sandy Run, below Fort Washington, and of the latter at Barren Hill.

Samuel Morris, of Whitemarsh, having died in 1772, by an unsigned will donated a lot of land for the purpose of a school, extending the benefit to the neighborhood around for the distance of a mile and a half, and five hundred and thirty pounds in addition for the erection of a school-house and keeping it in repair, for which the interest was only to be applied. The aforesaid objects were fully carried out by his brother, Joshua Morris, to which was afterwards added the sum of \$33.33 from Mr. Ulrich. A conveyance from the aforesaid was executed, January 13, 1773, to John Cleaver, of Upper Dublin, Thomas Lancaster, Joseph McClean, Jacob Edge, Joseph Lukens and Henry Scheetz, of Whitemarsh, in trust. The school-house was built not long afterwards, with a building attached on the lot fronting on the Spring House turnpike, about half a mile below Fort Washington. It was incorporated by an act of Assembly passed May 12, 1797. The first entry in the minute-book is dated 11th of Fourth Month, 1791, but the school was opened several years before this. The first teacher was Ezekiel Hill, who retained the position for several years; afterwards Thomas Livezey, who became a justice of the peace; Francis Murphy, about 1812, followed by Robert Kerr, William Kerr, John M. Jones, Daniel Sellers, Samuel Davis, Thomas

Bitting and others. It was known as the Union School and used as such until 1869, when the school directors of Whitemarsh built the house adjoining for the public school, when the former building was remodeled by the trustees. It is now used principally for lectures, concerts, etc.

A lot of ground, containing two acres and eighty perches, adjoining the aforesaid school-ground was conveyed, 23d of Sixth Month, 1791, by Joshua Morris to Joseph Lukens, Isaac Mather, John Wilson, Thomas W. Pryor, Joseph Jeanes, Thomas Lancaster, Jr., and Jesse Trump, of Whitemarsh, and Jesse Cleaver, of Upper Dublin, in trust to Gwynedd Monthly Meeting, for a meeting-house and burial-ground forever. Four of the surviving trustees, the 25th of Second Month, 1815, continued the trust, which, in 1847, was again transferred, to William Longstreth, Charles Williams, Joseph Jeanes, Ellis Cleaver, Thomas Livezey, Daniel Foulke, John L. Jones and Henry Jones. The present meeting-house and dwelling on said lot was erected about 1860. Friends hold occasional meetings here, the dwelling part being occupied.

The first school-house where is now the Williams Public School was built by a committee of Plymouth Preparatory Meeting in 1816. It was octagonal in form and hence bore the name of Eight-Square School-house. The first teacher was Thomas Paxson, father of Judge Edward M. Paxson, of the Supreme Court, who died in Buckingham, Bucks Co., April 19, 1881, in his eighty-eighth year. He was followed by his sister, Grace Paxson, next David Lukens, John H. Callender, Hughs Bell, Jacob Paxson and others. When the common-school system went into operation the building was taken in charge by the board of directors, who, in 1866, had it torn down and a more commodious one erected in its place.

Iron-ore has been obtained in considerable quantities in Whitemarsh for some time. Mention is made in Gabriel Thomas' "Account of Pennsylvania," published at London in 1698, of the discovery of ore in the province several years previous, but the locality is not specified. Near the present Edge Hill village, in Abington township, the existence of mines is stated in 1725. Just a short time previous to the completion of the Schuylkill navigation, in 1826, iron-ore was discovered in abundance near Spring Mill, from whence great quantities were shipped to furnaces in New Jersey and elsewhere. It was pronounced to contain seventy-five per cent. of pure iron, for which, in 1827, a royalty of fifty cents per ton was paid on the ground and when delivered in the city, \$4.50. From the quantity of ore taken from his farm, at Marble Hall, Henry S. Hitner had, to 1858, attained to a depth of ninety-five feet perpendicular, a steam-pump being used to remove the water. Great quantities have also been dug in the vicinity of Harmanville, Barren Hill, Cold Point and Lancasterville. According to the census of 1870,

nineteen iron-ore mines were worked in the county, employing two hundred and twenty-seven hands, producing 52,179 tons, valued at \$152,736. It is probable that Whitemarsh may have produced one-third of this amount, the other iron-producing townships being Abington, Upper Dublin, Springfield and Upper Merion.

Marble has also been procured for some time in Whitemarsh. Several quarries were worked before the beginning of this century. The Hitner quarry, at Marble Hall, in 1858 had reached a depth of two hundred and forty-two feet, showing that a considerable amount of marble must have been taken out to cause such an excavation. The Fritz quarry, which had been opened before 1800, in 1858 had attained a depth of one hundred and seventy-five feet. Besides these may be mentioned the Lentz and Dager or Potts quarries, that have also produced considerable of this material. The marble is of various colors and differs in quality,—white, blue and clouded, the former being the most valuable. Considerable of the marble used in the construction of Girard College was obtained from Mr. Hitner's quarry and Henderson's, in Upper Merion. The census of 1870 returned five marble-quarries in the county, which are limited to Whitemarsh and Upper Merion, the former producing the most. The business appears to be a very fluctuating one, at times the mills and machinery connected therewith being in full operation, and at intervals long idle or applied to other purposes. James Traquar had a marble-yard established near Marble Hall, in 1801, if not some time earlier, in charge of William Bush, keeping on hand a supply of tombstones, mantel and chimney-pieces, steps, sills, etc.

Lime was burned for building purposes in Whitemarsh, we know, in 1686, and in the vicinity of Plymouth Meeting before 1698. Its excellence and whiteness are known over the Union. According to the census of 1840, Whitemarsh produced lime to the value of fifty-one thousand four hundred and fifty-eight dollars, but the business has since been greatly increased through the extension of the railroad to Oreland. It is most extensively burned in the vicinity of Plymouth Meeting, Corson Station, Williams Station, Sandy Run and Whitemarsh village.

Peter Le Gaux, a native of Lorraine, France, where he was born in 1743, was a counselor of law by profession, and came to America in 1785 and settled the following year at Spring Mill. He resided on the hill to the north of the railroad station in an imposing, substantial two-story house, now occupied by his granddaughter, Mrs. Toland, to which was attached a considerable plantation. An act was passed by the Assembly, September 8, 1787, empowering him to establish and keep a ferry here. From 1786 to 1790 he was a contributor to the *Columbian Magazine*, published in Philadelphia, especially on meteorology, of which he was a close and practical observer and a man of scientific ac-

quirements. He was on intimate terms with the Audubons, father and son, of Lower Providence. While residing here he entered into vine-growing, with a view to the manufacture of wine. Robert Sutcliff, an English traveler, in a visit here, in August, 1804, thus mentions it in his work: "We crossed the Schuylkill at Spring-Mill Ferry, and had a sight of a vineyard of about five acres, under the management of a Frenchman. As the vines were not suffered to grow more than three feet in height, it had somewhat the appearance of a field of raspberries." No doubt he endeavored to introduce the cultivation of the foreign grape; hence, like many others, was unsuccessful. Mr. Le Gaux died here in 1828, aged seventy-five years. His will, in the register's office, is quite lengthy, and exhibits an eccentric mind.

With a view to changing the boundary line between Whitemarsh and Springfield, William Sibley, Michael O'Brian and Florence Sullivan were appointed commissioners, and made a report, which the court, November 11, 1876, modified and confirmed as follows:

"That instead of the Ridge turnpike road being the northeastern boundary, the dividing line shall be the line dividing the lands of J. Kratz and Wm. L. Rittenhouse, on the southwesterly side of said Ridge turnpike road, so that the township of Whitemarsh shall comprise that part of Springfield lying between the River Schuylkill, the line of Philadelphia City and county and the said line, between lands of J. Kratz and Wm. L. Rittenhouse."

By this change Springfield township no longer extends to the Schuylkill, and Whitemarsh has gained about one hundred and sixty acres of additional territory.

About half a mile southwest of Flourtown, on the Wissahickon, is the residence and farm of Norman W. Kittson, of St. Paul, Minnesota, containing four hundred acres, devoted to the rearing and improvement of blooded horses; with this purpose in view, Aristides Welsh, about 1861, purchased here a farm of one hundred and fifty acres, which he increased to two hundred and fifty acres. Among the most noted horses owned or bred by him may be mentioned Rysdick, Strathmore, Lexington, Susquehanna, Leamington, Lady Duke, Alarm, Reform, Iroquois (the winner, several years ago, of the Prince of Wales' stakes at the Ascot races), Harold and others. He likewise became the owner of Flora Temple, the famous trotter of thirty years ago. In May, 1882, Mr. Welsh sold the property known as Erdenheim to Mr. Kittson for one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, who has increased its area by adjoining purchases and making additional improvements, with a view to the enlargement of stock-raising. Three tracks for training and exercising the horses and colts have been recently laid out, of a mile, half-mile and the eighth of a mile in length, the latter under cover, so that it can be used in bad weather. For the purpose of affording readier communication between the grounds on the opposite sides of the Wissahickon, Mr. Kittson, in the summer of 1883, had a stone bridge erected across the stream, which, as a private enter-

prise was, possibly, not previously surpassed in the county. About one hundred and twenty-five acres of this estate are in Springfield township.

On the line adjoining Plymouth and Whitpain townships is an elevation known as Cold Point, where there is a scattered hamlet, containing on the Whitemarsh side more than a dozen houses. The Cold Point Baptist Church, located at this place, was first known as the Plymouth Church, and the locality became a preaching-place about 1842, when the Rev. Robert Young, then pastor of the Chestnut Hill Baptist Church, began service in the school-house, which then stood opposite the present church. The corner-stone of the old stone church edifice was laid in the summer of 1845, and after completion was in use until 1867. The corner-stone of the present stone house, sixty by forty feet, was laid in August of that year and completed and dedicated in 1868 and is still used. It stands a short distance west of the old church. The Rev. Mr. Young retired from the charge of Chestnut Hill Church in 1849 and the Revs. — Wilson and Barnhurst preached at the place until 1854, when the present church was regularly organized and the Rev. Jesse B. Williams became the pastor. He was succeeded by Alexander H. Folwell, — Trotter, J. B. Williams, H. H. Lemy, — Oakley, Rolando Kocher and John C. Jacobs. The churches are at present without a pastor. The membership is about one hundred and fifty. The grounds occupy about two and a half acres and are kept in neat condition. We find on the tombstones the names of Freas, Rodebaugh, Lysinger, Fight, Phipps, Hellings, Williams, White, Sands, Bisbing, Hallet, Rex, Coulson, Moore, Robinson, Fisher, Nagle, Schlater, Yetter, Butler, Kirk, Radcliff, Getman, Wood, Jones, Childs, Wimmer, Roberts, Heller, Gilbert and Dewees. From these grounds a fine view is obtained of the surrounding country, particularly towards the north and west, embracing the greater portion of Plymouth township. Near this is the residence of the late Alan W. Corson, well known as a teacher, surveyor, nurseryman and botanist, who died June 21, 1882, aged ninety-five years.

The Union Church, as it is called from being held in common by the Lutheran and Reformed denominations, is situated in the lower part of the village of Whitemarsh, on the turnpike, and was originally built in 1818. In 1867 it was remodeled with a tower in front. It is built of stone, one story high, with stained-glass windows. The grounds comprise about five acres and extend from the turnpike to the Church road. Quite a number have been buried here, as may be judged by the following surnames transcribed from the tombstones: Van Winkle, Kehr, Shriver, Smith, Cox, Shaffer, Schofield, Francis, Aimen, Heist, Swimp, King, Bisbing, Grafty, Pierce, Trexler, Stout, Herrman, Hoover, Hallowell, Ruch, Robbins, Kühler, Wallace, Thompson, Baum, Detweiler, Fisher, Prince, Rodebaugh, Dewees, Bolland,

Keyser, Wentz, Armstrong, Steevy, Ball, Slingluff, Heydrick, Day, Bitting, Sorber, Wolf, Dager, Yettters, Quandrill, Dotts, Faringer, Everhart, Harmer, Cook, Carr, Engard, Hockèr, Scheetz, Gilbert, McClellan, Clemens, Nace, Jones, Graff, Wimmer, Hess, Heister, Redifer, Fries, Lear, Hallman, Benner, Ott, Heany, Frantz, Hersh, Fultz, Bryan, Heller, Cox, Carn, McNeill, Sechler, Farr, Davis, Neiman, Kline, Coar, Peterman, Hauss, Brooke, Daub, Shugard, Irwin, Bush, Yeakle, Burnet, Closson, Hemp, Kerper, Bowers, Hogg, Cooper, Shaw, Frederick, Steer, McClay, Jacoby and Roberts. A handsome monument has been erected here to the memory of General Scheetz, who died in 1848. On the part of the Lutherans, the pastors of Barren Hill Church had charge here until the Rev. Mr. Sentman's time. Since the erection of the Upper Dublin Church, in 1857, this congregation has been assigned to the same pastor, the Rev. Lewis Hippee having charge until August, 1859; Rev. Edward Koons, from March, 1860, to May, 1863; Rev. George Sill, from September, 1863 to 1869, who was succeeded by the Rev. Mathias Sheeleigh. The Rev. George Wagner was the German Reformed pastor in 1858; the present is Rev. J. D. Dietrich, who reported that there were, in June, 1883, one hundred and sixty church members and one hundred and sixty Sunday-school scholars.

Barren Hill has a high location on an eminence of this name, which appears to be a spur of Edge Hill, and affords a fine view of the surrounding country. The Chestnut Hill and Perkiomen turnpike and Ridge turnpike approach here within a quarter of a mile of each other, and between them the village is chiefly situated. It contains three stores, three hotels, several mechanic shops, school-house, a three-story hall, post-office, mill and about fifty houses, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, a handsome edifice, founded in 1761, of which a further account will be given. The post-office was established before 1827. A steam grist-mill was built in 1858. The public school-house is a large two-story building. A passenger railway was completed from this place to Roxborough about ten years ago, over which five or six daily trains are drawn by two horses. The elections for the Western District of the township have been held here since 1875. That this place has improved, the following statistics will show: In the Revolution it contained a church, school-house and four or five houses; in 1858, thirty-three houses; and in 1880, four hundred and sixteen inhabitants. A meeting of the people of this county was held in December, 1799, to raise by subscription a sufficient sum to have the hill here on the Ridge road graded, when Colonel Andrew Porter, Abraham Webb and Andrew Norney were appointed a committee to make a survey and to report thereon. The work was accomplished by the middle of the following April and duly paid for. In the summer of 1883 an effort was made by some of the citizens residing here to have the name changed to that of Lafay-

ette Hill, which, being assented to by the post-office department, took effect January 1, 1884.

Spring Mill until recently was the most populous village in the township, but owing to the demolition of its furnaces and several manufacturing establishments, its prosperity has been impaired. It is situated on the east side of the Schuylkill, with two railroads having double tracks passing through it from Philadelphia. It contains at present four stores, one hotel, two clay-works, a grist-mill, several mechanic shops and about fifty houses. The census of 1880 gives seven hundred and eighty-eight inhabitants; if this is no typographical error, it is entirely too high; the number of houses will not admit of half this population. Mr. Hitner has sold his two furnaces here to the Schuylkill Valley Railroad Company to give room to their improvements. The village received its name from several copious springs of water near by, the principal ones being five or six in number. They are all situated within an area of half an acre, and flow into one stream, which, after a course of a quarter of a mile, empties into the Schuylkill. In this distance it has sufficient power to propel the whole year round the grist-mill mentioned, which was built here before 1715, and then owned by David Williams, next by Robert Jones. Thomas Livezey, in January, 1812, advertised it for rent, stating that it was affected by "neither frost nor drought." Mr. Hitner's furnaces were erected here in 1844 and 1853, with an estimated capacity to produce annually twelve thousand tons of iron. John Meconkey advertised the tavern and ferry here for sale in December, 1803, stating that the house was thirty-five by eighteen feet, two stories high, with an ice-house attached, and that the ferry had the advantage of not being fordable at any time of the year. Edge Hill crosses the Schuylkill just below the village, and continues up the other side of the river to West Conshohocken, where it turns to the southwest. The river is quite narrow where it flows through the hill and rises on both sides to an elevation of upwards of two hundred and fifty feet, contributing to the beauty of the scenery. Its flourishing neighbor, Conshohocken, bids fair to absorb the entire place, it being no easy matter now to a stranger to tell where the one begins or the other ends. The post-office here is called William Penn, and was established before 1876.

Marble Hall is situated on the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike and extends within half a mile of Barren Hill. It contains two stores, a marble-mill, several mechanic shops and above twenty houses. The census of 1880 gives it one hundred and twenty-two inhabitants. Daniel Hitner, the father of Daniel O. and Henry S. Hitner, was the founder of the place; he died here March 3, 1841, aged nearly seventy-six years. It was some time before the Revolution when Patrick Menan kept school here and taught the higher mathematics. Daniel O. and Henry S. Hitner hold

considerable real estate, and have long carried on the iron and marble business. The latter, according to the report of Henry D Rogers, the State geologist, secured from his farm of two hundred and thirty-five acres here, in 1852, ten thousand tons of good ore, and in the following year over twelve thousand tons. The village appears to have improved very little since 1858.

Fort Washington is situated near the Upper Dublin line, at the intersection of the Spring House turnpike and North Pennsylvania Railroad. It contains two stores, hotel, post-office, railroad-station, coal and lumber-yard and about eighteen houses. The post-office was removed here from Whitemarsh village in 1873 and A. H. Carn appointed postmaster, who still retains the position. Its title was changed from Whitemarsh to its present designation January 1, 1879. A woolen-mill and a silk-factory are in the vicinity, but have not been in operation for some time. Near this is also Isaac & Albert Conard's auger manufactory, who have been in the business many years. What was known in 1702 as the *wide marsh*, on the early North Wales road, and gave name to the township, begins at this village and extends southwardly nearly a mile. The venerable stone bridge over Sandy Run bears the date of 1792, and gives fair promise soon to be a centenarian. About half a mile south of Fort Washington Station a terrible collision between two trains took place July 7, 1856, by which forty persons were instantly killed, twenty died subsequently and nearly sixty were wounded. The accident was occasioned through the up train being behind time with a Sunday-school excursion, and the down train not waiting here, as it should have done. What pleasing anticipations that party must have had but a few moments before, when the object of their journey was almost in sight!

Undoubtedly the oldest settlement in the township is the village of Whitemarsh, situated on the Spring House turnpike, thirteen miles from Philadelphia. It contains two merchant mills propelled by the Wissahickon, two churches, school-house and seventeen dwellings. A considerable quantity of lime is burned here. An account of the Episcopal and Union Churches is given elsewhere. The Skippack road, laid out in 1713, was turnpiked from here, in 1855, a distance of five miles. It was at this place where the elections were so long held and the Whitemarsh post-office established before 1816. The lower portion of the place has for some time been denominated Valley Green. Here resided, from 1837, Morris Longstreth, appointed associate judge of Montgomery County, in 1841, afterward elected canal commissioner, and in 1848 defeated by a very small majority for Governor by William F. Johnson. A few years after this he died here on his farm. The buildings and a portion of the land are now owned by Franklin P. Seltzer, the balance by Franklin A. Comly, president of the North Pennsylvania Railroad, who resides here. This is a populous sec-

tion of country and abounds in fine, productive farms.

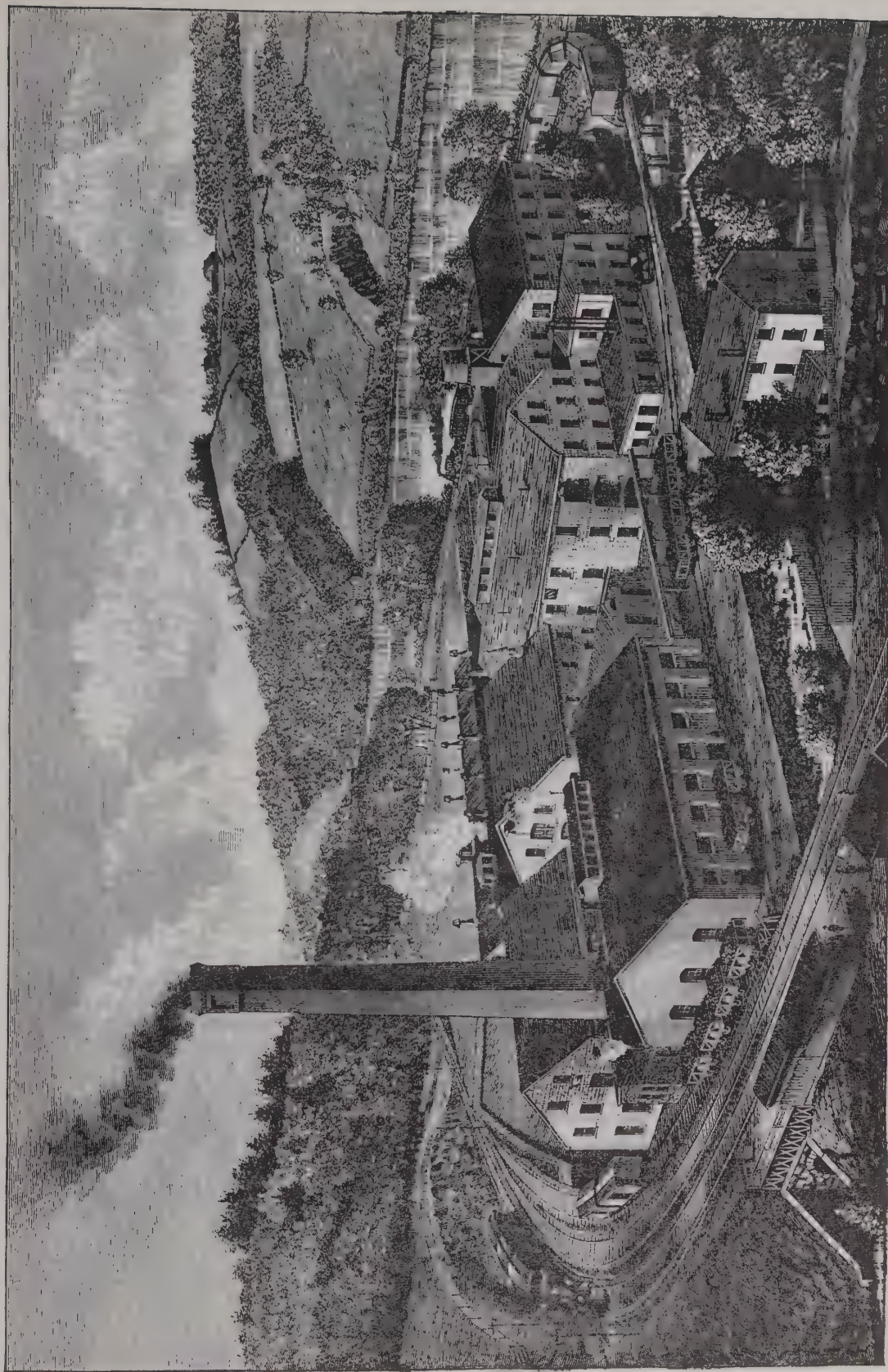
Lancasterville is situated near the Whitpain line, and formerly owed its prosperity to the manufacture of lime, but since the completion of the Plymouth Railroad to Oreland the business has been removed to its proximity, and the place has gone to decay. Here resided Thomas Lancaster, a Friend, who, in 1774, emancipated his negro man, Cato, aged forty-six years, and, in addition, gave bond that he should not fall for his keep on the public charge. He was assessed in 1780 for holding a farm of two hundred acres and keeping four horses. He had a son of the same name, who inherited the property. It was from this family that the place received its name. The numerous neglected kilns and quarries abounding here attest the industry that once prevailed.

Lafayette is the name of a station a mile below Spring Mill, on the Norristown Railroad. An extensive paper-mill was built here in 1856 by Mr. Cope, of Germantown, who carried on the business for several years. It is now owned and operated by W. C. Hamilton & Sons, who employ about one hundred hands. The census of 1880 gives one hundred and thirty-nine inhabitants. In 1858 there were but four or five dwellings and the ruins of a grist-mill that had been propelled by a stream that empties here into the Schuylkill.

At Plymouth Meeting, on the Perkiomen turnpike, in this township, are now some twenty houses, and it appears to be an improving place. An Evangelical meeting-house was commenced here in 1876, but not dedicated until July 22, 1883. It is a two-story stone edifice, with a capacity to seat five hundred persons. The pastor is the Rev. H. M. Capp.¹

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church.—This congregation ranks among the earliest of the denomination in Pennsylvania. The Farmar family, who were its founders and principal patrons, arrived in September, 1685, and had probably settled here the following year. Tradition derived from several sources states that between 1690 and 1700 a church was built, of logs, which, in 1710, was destroyed by fire, when a stone building was erected in the northeast corner of the old graveyard, on land given for the purpose by Edward Farmar, and which stood there and served all the purposes of a house of worship to the congregation for the long period of one hundred and seven years. Who was its first pastor remains undetermined. It was not, however, till about 1695, that the Rev. Mr. Clayton first established the services of the Church of England in Philadelphia; his death occurred only three years later. He was followed by the Rev. Evan Evans, who came to this country in 1700, and was for many years rector of

¹ The writer acknowledges himself under obligations to the Hon. William A. Yeakle for some information relating to Whitemarsh, having written a series of interesting sketches on the subject, recently published in the *Norristown Herald*.



"RIVERSIDE PAPER-MILLS."

W. C. HAMILTON & SONS,

WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA.

Christ Church. He was frequently invited by those that visited his church to make journeys of fifteen and twenty miles from the city to minister to their spiritual wants, which opportunities he did not neglect, and thus an interest was maintained for worship.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in 1718, appointed the Rev. Mr. Weyman as their missionary at Oxford and Radnor. He came to this country and entered upon his ministry with diligence and made his residence at the former place. He shortly afterwards informed the society "that there is a congregation at Whitemarsh, about ten miles distant from Oxford, who are desirous of a minister, and have, for the decent performance of divine worship, erected a goodly stone building." This certainly implies that at that early date the congregation could not have been small, and that they had a creditable church. Mr. Weyman now resigned the Radnor charge and confined his labors chiefly to the Oxford and Whitemarsh congregations, which came thus to be associated for a long period. He was succeeded, June 24, 1733, by the Rev. Alexander Howie, whose ministry lasted nine years, when he left for the West Indies. The Rev. William Currie assumed the duties in 1742, at which time the wardens were John Barge and Hugh Burk, and the vestrymen Thomas Bartholomew, William Malchior, Edward Burk, Francis Colley, William Dewees, Jr., and John Burk.

From a record of the business proceedings of the wardens and vestrymen for 1742 the following interesting extract is taken :

"It was agreed that James Whiley, for officiating as Clark, cleaning the church and keeping things in decent order, should receive five pounds per annum. That the old tiles be sold for the best price, and the roof covered with cedar shingles. That a new pew and pulpit be made in the northeast corner, and new bannisters round the communion table. Also to fence in the graveyard with red cedar posts and cedar boards, and make three gates, one on each side, and the other at the end of the graveyard."

This establishes the fact that the original roof had been covered with tiles. The expense of repair was met by some forty contributors. The accounts show that Samuel Gilkey repaired the roof and Jacoby Whiley and George Lawrence attended to the carpenter-work.

The Rev. Eneas Ross came over from London in June, 1741, and became pastor of Christ Church, Philadelphia, which he resigned in June, 1743, to take charge of the churches at Oxford and Whitemarsh, in which he continued until 1758. He was the first minister to make any record of baptisms and marriages; unfortunately, his example was not followed for over half a century afterwards. Mr. Ross having been transferred to New Castle, Del., the Rev. Hugh Neill became his successor, who stated, on entering on his duties, that the attendance at worship was about one hundred and fifty, of which not more than thirty were members, the rest being Dis-

senters, or Germans who had received some knowledge of English. It is supposed that on the removal of Mr. Neill, in 1766, that the Rev. Dr. William Smith, provost of the college at Philadelphia, officiated occasionally until 1779.

From the following entry made April 17, 1786, it will be observed that all early records of the church have been unfortunately lost, except one book from 1742 to 1766: "*Ordered*, That proper books be provided for keeping the registers of this Parish, the old books and registers having been destroyed during the late war." At the aforesaid meeting of the congregation John B. Gilpin and Andrew Redifer were elected wardens, and Edward Burk, Levi Stannerd, William Hicks and Frederick Hitner vestrymen. Efforts were at once made to repair the injuries resulting from the war. It is therefore "*Resolved*, That, as the church is much gone to decay and the fence round the graveyard totally destroyed, the church be immediately put into decent repair, a communion table provided and a desk made for the clerk. Also, that a rail-fence of cedar be made round the graveyard." The Rev. Joseph Pilmore was, on this occasion, chosen minister and John Stewart appointed clerk. For the long space of twenty years, extending from 1766 to 1786, they had no regular pastor and but irregular worship, the members being scattered and the building and grounds in a ruinous condition.

Mr Pilmore retained the charge until 1794, when Rev. Dr. Wm. Smith succeeded until 1796, followed by the Rev. John H. Hobart to 1797, who afterwards became bishop of the diocese of New York, next the Rev. Slater Clay until 1812, then his son, Rev. J. C. Clay. The Rev. Bird Wilson, rector of the church in Norristown, officiated until 1821, followed by Rev. Mr. Robertson for a short period. He was followed by Rev. John Rodney, in connection with St. Luke's Church, Germantown, to 1833, the Rev. Dr. Cruse and Rev. John Reynolds to 1836, Rev. Wm. H. Deihl to 1852, Rev. George Foote to 1855, Rev. David C. Millett from 1856 to 1864, Rev. Charles Bonnel to 1869, Rev. Mr. Stryker to 1876, who was succeeded by the present rector, Rev. H. I. Meigs.

On the erection of the church, in 1817, the tower and spire were not completed until between the years 1847 and 1857, when the parsonage and school-house were built, additional ground purchased and a bell of eleven hundred pounds weight and a communion service presented. The church was forty by sixty feet in dimensions, built of stone, one story high, with a spire of one hundred and thirty feet. So weak at times has been the congregation that in 1817 the membership was only fifteen and worship was held only once a month. A drawing was made of this building in May, 1857, which may now be the only one extant. The distance to the Oxford Church does not exceed nine miles, and it was not till 1734 that the road was opened between them and declared a public

highway, which has ever since borne the name of Church road. The remains of Edward Farmar, who died in 1745, were placed in the upper part of the north aisle; the original slab retains its position, thus denoting the site of the old church. Tradition states that several Indian chiefs were buried here, but the exact place of their interment is unknown.

The church in the Revolution was occupied by both parties. During Washington's encampment in the vicinity soldiers were quartered in it, who made hearths of the grave-stones for their cooking purposes, which will account for the loss of head-stones from the earliest graves, fragments of which may be still discovered with lettering on them. On the retreat of the Americans from Germantown, the British, in their pursuit, occupied it, and again on their march out here to attack Washington. On this last occurrence they made use of it for several days. The late church, believed to be the third erected here, was torn down in 1868, and the present large and beautiful edifice commenced in the previous year, which, however, was not used for worship until 1877, and not fully completed until 1881. It is built of dressed red sandstone, procured in the neighborhood, forty-two by one hundred and twenty-four feet in dimensions, with a tower at the east end eighty-two feet in height. The windows are of stained glass and of the most elegant designs. From this elevated churchyard a fine prospect is afforded of the surrounding country, including Flourtown, Chestnut Hill, Barren Hill, Camp Hill, Fort Washington and the romantic valley of the Wissahickon. It is undoubtedly one of the handsomest church buildings in the county.

The grounds embrace all of six acres, substantially inclosed and kept in a neat condition. As may be expected from its antiquity, many have been buried here, probably above two thousand. The oldest stone bearing a date is that erected to the memory of James Allison, who died in 1727, aged forty-five years. Several quaint and curious epitaphs are here, bearing the dates of 1732, 1738, 1749, 1755 and 1763. Among the numerous surnames to be found here can be mentioned Burke, Barge, Wells, Farmar, Allison, Woolen, Brant, White, Shay, Houpt, Ingleman, Cleaver, Bisbing, Robinson, Nash, Acuff, Donatt, Taylor, Nague, Loeser, Bradfield, Hayes, Hinkle, Lukens, Smith, Jackson, Hickling, Young, Warley, Comly, Corson, Aimen, Stackhouse, Hersh, Summerfield, Grafty, Hart, Gibbs, Janney, Dodson, Kifer, Platt, Foote and Vancourt. In the spring of 1883 this church was represented in the Episcopal Convention by William H. Drayton, John H. Bringhurst and Hamilton Taggart as lay delegates. The present communicants number nearly one hundred; the children attending the Sunday and parish-schools number about eighty. Of the eleven Episcopal Churches now in the county, this was established the earliest, the next being St. James', in Lower Providence, in 1721.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church.—The origin of this church appears to be greatly due to the early and active efforts of the Rev. Henry M. Muhlenberg, which is thus acknowledged in the minutes: "Our collectors having, in his name and with his letters of recommendation, raised contributions to defray the expenses of the school-house, and having, after these were paid, also, by means of his written petitions, collected money in Philadelphia and in the Provinces of New Jersey and New York for the building of St. Peter's church, he himself having, at the same time, as far as it was possible for himself and his fellow-labourers, served us in the preaching of the gospel." From the deed of the school-house, dated March 15, 1758, we learn that Christopher Roberts, Philip Cressman, Valentine Miller, Philip Hersh and Adam Snider, of Whitmarsh, had commenced the building, but, through a



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BARREN HILL.

majority of votes, transferred their rights to Rev. Richard Peters; Charles Magnes Wrangel, D.D., provost of the Swedish Lutheran Churches in Pennsylvania and New Jersey; Henry M. Muhlenberg, first minister of the United German Evangelical Congregations in Pennsylvania; Henry Keppele, Sr., of Philadelphia; John Koplin, of Providence; Valentine Miller, Ludwig Kolb and Mathias Sommer, members of the church in Whitmarsh.

The aforesaid school-house was completed in 1758, and worship was held in it until the completion of the church. The first teacher was Michael Seely, who subsequently had the misfortune to become blind. The church, it is supposed, was commenced in 1761, but was not finished until a few years later. It was a substantial stone edifice, with galleries on three of its sides, surmounted by a steeple, which remained stand-

ing until 1849,—a period of nearly eighty-eight years. The school-house was built of logs; since, three others have been successively erected on the same spot, the two last, by the directors, under the public-schoolsystem. Conrad Bischoff, in 1765, taught the school, followed by John George Kahn in 1768. Mr. Muhlenberg officiated at the laying of the corner-stone of the new church, and gave towards it, out of a certain legacy, twenty-four pounds, and preached in it before roofed, in which state it had cost five hundred pounds, and on its completion, upwards of five hundred pounds more.

It appears that the congregation had subscribed but little towards its building, for they were in debt upwards of £1000 (\$2666.66) when the church was finished. Hearing of the pecuniary embarrassment Dr. Ziehenhagen, chaplain to the King of England, authorized Mr. Muhlenberg to draw on him for five hundred pounds sterling. After the most clamorous of the creditors had been paid the church, school-house and lot of ground were conveyed to the German Lutheran congregation of Philadelphia. But what principally enabled the securities to meet their engagements was a legacy of thirteen thousand gulden (five thousand two hundred dollars) from the Count of Roedelshelm, in Germany, which he bequeathed to the German Lutheran congregations of Pennsylvania, three thousand gulden (twelve hundred dollars) of which were expressly given towards the indebtedness of this church. Thus was the debt of the church paid off to save it from being sold, and not long afterwards the whole was freed from incumbrances.

At an election held at St. Peter's, April 1, 1766, Henry Katz, John Bauer, Andrew Koeth and Philip Lehr were chosen elders, and William Hiltner and John Fisher deacons. In June, 1769, Rev. John Frederick Schmidt accepted the charge of the Germantown congregation, and preached every other Sunday in the parochial churches of Frankford and Whittpain, and occasionally at Barren Hill, in which church divine service had been previously held every other Sunday by the Germantown ministers, during the time of Pastors John Nicholas Kurtz, John Ludwig Voight and James Van Buskirk. Through the war and for several years after its close the Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg, no doubt, occasionally officiated here, also his son, the Rev. H. E. Muhlenberg, of St. Michael's, Philadelphia, followed by the Rev. Daniel Schroeder and John Henry Weinland, in 1786 to 1789, of the Germantown congregation, whose several labors helped to keep the congregation together.

During the Revolution the church received considerable injury, having been by turns occupied by the contending armies, and used as a battery and stable. The Rev. H. M. Muhlenberg, in his journal, under date of November 4, 1777, says "that it was used as a stable for horses by a portion of the American army, encamped in the vicinity," and further mentions that a short time previous the British army had been here,

and taken from the people their horses, oxen, cows, sheep and hogs. Lafayette quartered in the church, as a point for observation, during his brief tarry on the hill, in the middle of May, 1778, and came near being captured by General Grant, with a strong detachment of the British army. After the war, as may well be supposed, it was almost a ruin, full of rubbish and dirt, and its members, from being pillaged, were miserably impoverished and destitute of even the necessities of life.

The Rev. Frederick D. Schaeffer has left the following interesting account of the condition of affairs here:

"In the year 1790 I was called to the congregation of St. Peter's Church as their regularly ordained minister, and found the church and school in such a lamentable condition as to be commiserated. Only a few heads of families adhered to this congregation; the greater number of the children had already been sent to English schools, and an English schoolmaster had been appointed to teach without my knowledge. The church building was in a deplorable condition, like a neglected or disordered house, the rude walls, windows and frames broken and shattered, and the roof appeared also ready to fall in."

Like St. Thomas' Church, at Whitemarsh, it seems it required sometime to get over the disasters occasioned by the war and relieve themselves from the difficulties under which they had labored.

Through the exertions of Mr. Schaeffer the church and surrounding premises were put into better condition, but from having been built nearly half a century considerable repair was needed. To carry this out, the congregation made application to the Assembly, who passed an act, April 13, 1807, authorizing them to hold a lottery to meet the expense. For the want of unanimity this was not carried out, when a committee of seven members was appointed, in 1809, to rebuild the structure and restore the fence and graveyard, which was accomplished within the year. It was dedicated January 7, 1810, in the presence of a numerous assemblage. The preaching in the forenoon was in the German, and in the afternoon in English. After a service here and with the Germantown congregation of over twenty-two years, Mr. Schaeffer resigned and went to Philadelphia, preaching his farewell sermon August 23, 1812. The Rev. John C. Baker succeeded in the charge and remained its pastor until 1828. During his ministry the German language was entirely dispensed with and the English substituted. The Rev. Benjamin Keller, D.D., commenced his labors in February, and remained till 1835.

Under the charge of Rev. C. W. Schaeffer the parsonage was built, in 1836, at a cost of nearly nine hundred dollars. The Rev. F. R. Anspach, D.D., became the pastor January 1, 1841, and remained until 1850. He held the last communion in the old church April 8, 1849, when the present fine edifice was erected, at a cost of six thousand five hundred dollars. Through the industry and perseverance of Dr. Anspach the membership of the congregation here and at Whitemarsh was greatly increased. In connection with his other duties, he conducted a select school wherein the higher branches of English education were taught. Rev. Wm. H. Smith succeeded in 1850, and resigned

May 10, 1852. In November of said year Rev. Wm. Baum, D.D., accepted, and served until May, 1858, and was followed by Rev. S. Sentman, who remained till April, 1862. In his ministry the centennial celebration of the church was observed with appropriate ceremonies. Rev. C. F. Keedy was the next pastor, followed by Rev. J. Q. Waters, when Rev. R. Demme succeeded in 1867. The Rev. T. C. Pritchard received the charge September 1, 1871, and remained until July, 1883, and was succeeded by Rev. J. Q. McAtlee. To the pastors of this congregation was also assigned the charge of the Union Church at Whitmarsh from 1818 until 1858, when the latter was connected with the Upper Dublin Church.

The present church, as has been stated, was built in 1849, in the Gothic style, two stories high, with buttresses and stained-glass windows. Its dimensions are forty-eight by seventy-two feet, with a tower and spire one hundred feet high. The steeple, from its high situation, is seen for many miles around. From the churchyard a fine prospect is obtained, particularly in a northeast direction. The ground probably comprises in all eight acres, inclosed by an iron railing and wall. A considerable number have been buried here in the past one hundred and twenty-five years. On the stones are found the names of Deltre, Dager, Morris, Prutzman, Barnet, Crawford, Bell, Rapine, Harbst, Cook, Gilinger, Gulp, Dewees, Hitner, Robinson, Righter, Bond, Pflieger, Young, Staley, Lyle, Johnson, Jago, Keys, Mattis, Rex, Bolton, Sassaman, Wolf, Thomas, Lysinger, Kline, Ellis, Garn, Becher, Boyer, Lightcap, Gray, Neil, Klair, Streepier, Bartle, Haugh, Culp, Wampole, Hiltner, Cole, Heritage, Colman, Kirk, Davis, Johnson, Goshen, Bickings, Ludy, Pifer, Kenzie, McIntire, Matlack, File, Haines, Butter, Markley, Marple, Fisher, Shinkle, Hellings, Freas, Peters, Heilman, Hagy, Harner, Graver, Vandike, Cressman, Kirker, Ritter, Van Winkle, Moyer, Nelson, Faringer, Deshong, Spealhofer, Hart, Thorp, Keely, Hesser, Potts, Zern, Schlatter, Herman, Barnholt, Hallman, Steer, Share, Sharp, Fight, Bauer, Calender, Kutz, Shaw, Dennison, Snyder, Wood, Thompson, Cress, Jacoby, Faust, Edelman, Scheetz and Brant. A handsome white marble monument, about twenty-five feet high, was erected to the memory of the soldiers who died in the late civil war. The oldest stone observed, bearing a date, is to the memory of "Johan Heinrich Klein, gestorben 1760." During a severe storm in November, 1878, which passed over the centre of the township and did considerable damage, the steeple of the church was blown down and greatly injured, but was restored in the following year.

ASSESSMENT OF WHITEMARSH, 1780.

Leonard Steeper, assessor, and John Bower, collector.

Andrew Cate, 100 acres, 2 horses, 3 cows; John Sheppard, 83 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Christopher Shupart, 50 a., 1 h., 3 c., 2 stills; Jacob Cate, laborer; Henry Katz, 17 a., 2 h., 3 c., paper-mill and 43 a. in Springfield; Joseph Ake, miller, 1 c.; Wm. Kagge, 3 c., paper-mill; Hagge, 100 a., 2 h., 2 c., paper mill; Caspar Wampole, 50 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Adam Miller, 3 h., 3 c.; John Shupart, 1 c.; George Knittle, 2 h., 2 c.; George Geiger, 2 h., 2 c.;

Jacob Hauser, laborer, $\frac{1}{4}$ a., 1 h., 2 c.; Wm. Johnson, laborer, 23 a., 1 c.; Ludwig Dagen, inn-keeper, 95 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Henry Kuntzman, smith, 1 c.; Margaret Robins, 15 a.; Martha Shoemaker, widow, 30 a., 1 c.; John Conard, aged, 1 h., 1 c.; Jacob Shoemaker, aged, 150 a., 1 c.; David Shoemaker, 3 h., 3 c.; Elizabeth Baker, 7 a., aged and infirm; Michael Lentz, 30 a., 2 c.; Christopher Carr, 1 c.; John Rickert, 212 a., 5 h., 6 c., 1 still; Jacob Jones, schoolmaster, 84 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Griffith Thomas, 85 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Samuel Miles, gentleman, 2 h., 3 c., 1 four-wheel carriage, 1 two-wheel do.; Joseph Paul, miller, 25 a., grist and saw-mill; Thomas Livezey, 125 a., 1 h.; John Conard, laborer, 1 c.; Francis Henry; Isaac Fryer; Philip Lehr, 1 h., 1 c., Christopher Lehr, 1 h., 1 c.; John Jones, 190 a., 2 h., 1 c.; John Harry, 100 a., 3 h., 4 c.; James Stroud, 1 h., 1 c.; Michael Mitchell, 4 h., 2 c.; John Hart, 14 a., 1 c.; John Clinton, shoemaker; Jacob Kuhn, 2 h., 1 c.; John Wolf, laborer, 15 a., 1 c.; Frederick Zorn, 20 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Hannah Maulesby, widow, 100 a., 1 c.; Thomas Shepherd; Wm. Stroud, laborer; John Yetter, 2 h.; Jonathan Powell, 95 a., 2 h., 4 c.; John Hufty, 120 a., 4 h., 3 c.; Davis Davis; Christian Steer, inn-keeper, 200 a., 8 h., 7 c., 1 chair; George Fries, 100 a., 3 h., 3 c.; William Hiltner, 30 a., 1 h., 2 c.; John Ketler, 116 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Jacob Sharp, shoemaker; Valentine Cressman, laborer, 1 c.; George Fries, Jr., shoemaker, 2 c.; Catharine Rapp, widow, 100 a.; Peter Streepier, smith, 1 h., 1 c.; George Cressman, laborer, 10 a., 1 c.; John Bower, 48 a., 4 h., 2 c.; Adam Kiteer; John Fisher, 25 a., 1 h., 1 c.; William Hirsch, laborer; James Griffin, 2 h., 2 c.; Joseph Kenton, laborer; Adam Snyder, 2 h., 1 c.; Catharine Moyer, 25 a., 1 c.; Frederick Gilbert, 1 c.; Wm. Dewees, laborer, 6 a., 1 c.; Benjamin Krouse, tailor, 1 a., 1 c.; Philip Sharp, $\frac{1}{4}$ a.; Isaiah Hups, 100 a., 4 h., 2 c.; Leonard Culp, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c., 1 still; Leonard Steeper, 180 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Dennis Streepier; Jacob Shearer, 2 h., 2 c.; Peter Dager, 4 h., 5 c.; Albrecht Houser; Jacob Edge, 198 a., 2 h., 3 c.; David Acuff, 50 a., 5 h., 3 c.; Jacob Acuff; Wm. Fitzgerald, school-teacher, 6 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Abraham Houser, 20 a., 1 h., 2 c.; George Aimen, 45 a., 1, 3 c.; Conrad Bean, 2 h., 1 c.; John Derrick, laborer; James Haslett, 1 c., laborer; Richard Mairs, millwright, 2 h., 1 c.; Isaac Mathers, 2 h., 3 c., 1 still; William West, 280 a., 6 h., 10 c., 2 negroes, one four-wheel carriage; Samuel Morris, tanner, 29 a., 3 h., 2 c.; Jesse Gilbert, 1 h., 1 c.; Henry Scheetz, paper-maker, 80 a., 3 h., 4 c., paper-mill; Joseph Lukens, 190; a., 3 h., 6 c.; George Ankele; William Jones, laborer; Marchant Maulesby, 80 a., 3 c., aged; John Kerbaugh, 18 a., 4 h., 1 c.; Edward Hopkins, 1 h., 2 c.; Martin Faringer, 80 a., 2 h., 3 c.; Jacob Mathews, smith, 1 c.; Samuel Cox, shoemaker, 1 c.; Andrew Miller, 3 h., 1 c.; Henry Enghart, 2 h., 2 c.; Henry Gordon, laborer; Edward Davis, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Walter McCool, 1 negro, 50 a., 2 h., 2 c.; Samuel McCool, 1 h., 2 c., tailor; David Evans, laborer, 1 c.; Joseph McClean, 230 a., 3 h., 5 c.; Jacob Cook, weaver, 1 c.; David White; James White, 47 a., 2 h., 2 c., tailor; Robert Kane, shoemaker, 1 c.; John Cox, schoolmaster; Thomas Cox, 11 a., 1 h., 1 c., laborer; Dorothy Jarret, widow, 200 a., 3 h., 5 c.; John Hallowell, 120 a., 3 h., 4 c.; John Wilson, 117 a., 2 h., 3 c.; John Eldridge, 1 servant, 150 a., 4 h., 5 c.; Sarah Egbert, widow, 60 a., 4 h., 1 c.; John Egbert; Lawrence Egbert; Thomas Lancaster, 200 a., 4 h.; Thomas Lancaster; Joseph James, 160 a., 2 h., 2 c.; George Shatinger, laborer, 2 c.; Evan Meredith, miller, 6 h., 4 c., 1 chair, rents of Robert Wells 300 a. and grist-mill; Joseph Wood; Samuel Williams, 2 h., 2 c.; Casper Freas, 3 h., 4 c.; Jacob Lesley, laborer, 1 c.; Jonathan Robeson, 238 a., grist-mill, 3 negroes, 1 chair, 5 h., 4 c.; Michael Knorr, 170 a., 5 h., 5 c.; George Harker, 200 a., 4 h., 6 c.; Melchior Knorr, 170 a., 5 h., 5 c.; Bernard Knorr, laborer, 2 h., 2 c.; Isaac Williams, 470 a., belonging to Anthony Williams' estate; Michael Bowman, 2 h., 1 c.; Henry Seabolt, shoemaker, 1 c.; Michael Miller, 33 a., 1 h., 1 c.; Frederick Miller, 11 a., 1 c.; Michael Miller, 1 c.; Joseph Ramsey, laborer, 1 c.; Israel Everly, shoemaker, 2 c.; Patrick Menan, aged, 50 a., 1 h., 2 c.; Josiah Dickeson, 2 h., 3 c.; Frederick Hitner, 4 h., 2 c.; Jesse Greenfield. *Single Men*—George Geiger, George Aimen, Owen Morris, Philip Keese, Morris Maulesby, Lawrence Egbert, Joseph Wood, Lewis Wood, Peter Robeson.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

ELIAS HICKS CORSON.

The subject of this biography is the son of Alan W. and Mary Corson, of Whitmarsh township, and was born on the 19th of February, 1816. His father,

a distinguished mathematician and botanist, was able to give his son superior opportunities of instruction, to which primary store of knowledge he added by reading and observation. At the time of his majority he engaged in lime-burning in Chester County, but soon returned and began the same business in Plymouth, where it was continued with energy and profit until his death, on the 5th of November, 1877. He was also engaged in the coal business, and was the owner of a fine farm adjacent to the quarries, which he cultivated to its fullest capacity. Mr. Corson, on the 13th of March, 1845, married Miss Emily R. Harris, daughter of Henry and Rachel Harris, of Philadel-

It may be said of Mr. Corson that few men in his section of the State were better known or more universally esteemed. He displayed a varied knowledge, was quick of apprehension and possessed a rare facility of conversation, combined with the kindness and gentleness of a child. He possessed a strong individuality, was a marked man in stature, strength and symmetry, and possessed not less remarkable business qualifications than strong mental endowments. He was fond of literature, a reader of the poets, and kept pace with the transactions of the times. His conversation and presence were magnetic, his manner agreeable and his wit devoid of sting or bitterness. Good,



E. H. Corson

phia. Their children are Henry H., George, Emily, Martha, Walter H., Carroll, Percy H. and four who died in early youth.

Mr. Corson, early in the anti-slavery movement, joined his efforts to those put forth by the friends of human rights, and through the long years of that strife was active in the cause, contributing freely and aiding in all proper ways to give freedom to the slave. To the temperance cause he also gave his heartiest approval, for which work he was eminently fitted, no amount of opposition or inconsistency of others being able to tempt him to unbecoming violence or prevent his administering a deserved rebuke.

pure, strong and true, his influence will survive, while to his friends he remains as a bright memory, a spur to noble deeds in the cause of humanity.

JOSEPH FREAS.

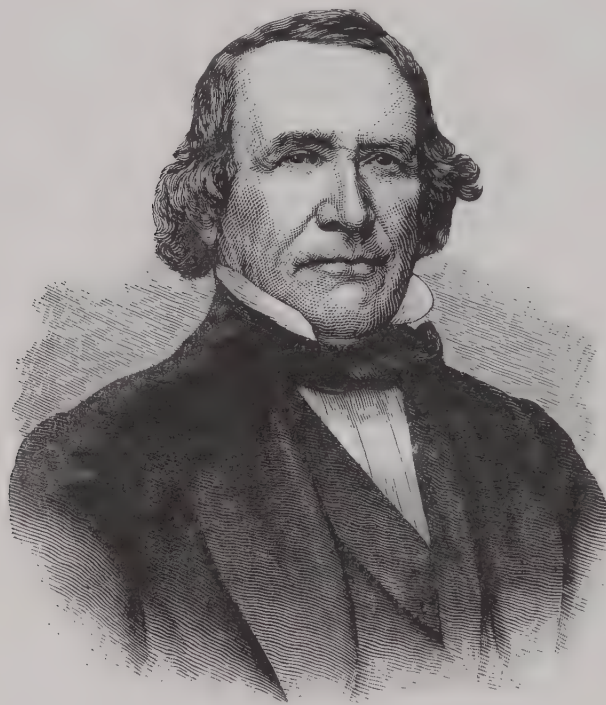
Mr. Freas is of German extraction, his father having been George Freas, who married Barbara Wolf. Their children were John, George, Samuel, Jacob, Benjamin, Daniel, Joseph, William, Mary (Mrs. Samuel Roberts) and Catherine (Mrs. William Freas). Joseph was born on the 6th of May, 1794, on the homestead farm, in Whitmarsh township, and during his youth remained with his parents, receiving

meanwhile such education as the neighboring schools afforded. He then chose as his trade that of a blacksmith, and became an apprentice to his brother Samuel, in Plymouth. This trade he followed for some years in Plymouth, but, concluding that the occupation of a farmer, with which he had been made familiar in his youth, was more to his taste, he abandoned his trade and returned to Whitmarsh. Here he purchased of his father the farm, which for many years he cultivated, and on retiring from active farm-labor he erected the residence on the same farm which is now the home of his widow and daughter. His political sentiments were those of the Old-Line

universally esteemed in the township. His death occurred November 22, 1879, at his home, in Whitmarsh.

JESSE W. FREAS.

The great-grandfather of Jesse W. Freas (or Fries, as originally spelled) and uncle of Jacob Frederick Fries, the founder of a philosophical school in Germany and professor at Heidelberg in 1805, was from Saxony. His son, Simon, resided at Marble Hall, in Whitmarsh township, where he followed the blacksmith's craft. He was united in marriage to Margaret Rapin, born in 1773, died in 1863, a descendant



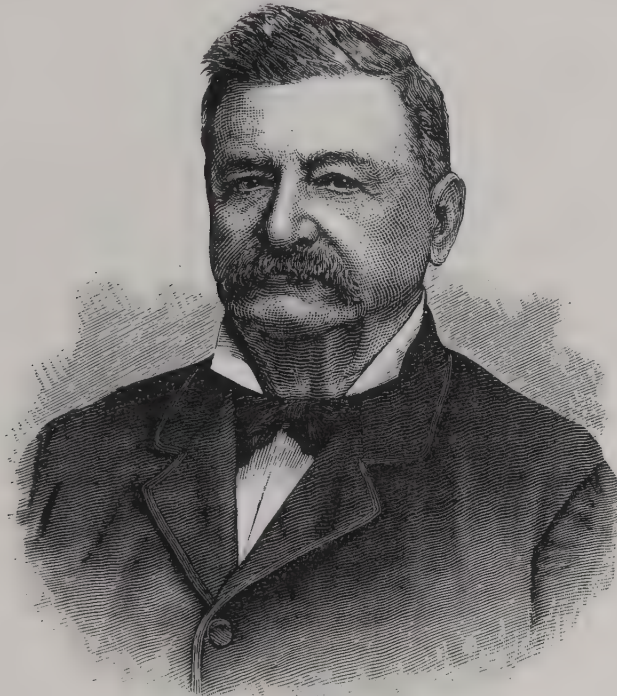
Joseph Freas

Whig party, though he did not take an active part in the public movements of the day, and devoted his time and efforts wholly to his own business. Mr. Freas was married, on the 15th of January, 1818, to Ann Keely, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Keely, of Philadelphia County, whose birth occurred November 17, 1792. Their children are Henry, born in 1818; Joanna, in 1820; Walton, in 1822; Essachar, in 1824; Elizabeth, in 1826; John Quincy, in 1828; Orlando, in 1830; Caroline, in 1834; Tacy A., in 1836; and Barbara A., in 1839. Mr. Freas was not less favorably known for his industry than for his upright character and integrity, which caused him to be

of the celebrated Paul da Rapin de Thoyras, an eminent historiographer, born in Languedoc in 1661. A member of the family, Philip Rapin, was a commissioned officer in the Revolutionary war, and Daniel Rapin was the first mayor of Washington City, justice of the peace, appointed by President Jefferson, and postmaster of the House of Representatives at the time of his death, in 1825. The children of Simon and Margaret Freas were William, David, Ann, Charles, Nicholas, Sarah, Elizabeth, Philip, Henry, Elizabeth (2d) and David (2d). William, of this number, was born December 27, 1796, in Whitmarsh, where he was early a blacksmith, and later became the

owner of a productive farm. He married Catherine Freas, daughter of George Freas, the latter of whom was but an infant of one year on his emigration from Germany. Their children were a son, Jesse W., and a daughter, Barbara Ann, now Mrs. Philip Cressman, of Philadelphia. Jesse W. was born on 23d of October, 1818, in Whitemarsh township and devoted his boyhood to labor, varied by attendance at the nearest school, where he acquired a substantial education. He was instructed at an early age in the uses of the hammer and forge, as also in the various occupations pertaining to the life of a farmer, and continued thus industriously occupied until his mar-

also engaged in a general merchandise business. The Freas family have been blessed with great longevity. Jesse W. is now sixty-seven, William died at eighty-four, Margaret at ninety, and nearly all her children at advanced ages. Mr. Freas is in politics a Republican, having formerly voted with the Democratic party, as did his father. He has served as school director, but declined other official positions, though holding the commission as postmaster at Lafayette Hill. He is a Lutheran in his religious faith, and member of the Lutheran Church at Barren Hill, as are his wife and most of the children, his son, William S., being a clergyman of that denomination, settled at Carlisle,



Jesse W. Freas

riage, December 24, 1846, to Miss Ann Catherine Streeper, daughter of Leonard and Sarah Streeper. Their children are William S., born in 1848; Frederick R., in 1851; Eva, in 1853 (died in 1854); Luther, in 1855; Henry M., in 1859; L. Streeper, in 1862; Oliver S. Abold, in 1864; Lilly, in 1868 (died in 1883); and Ida M., in 1872. Mr. Freas, on his marriage, removed to a farm belonging to his father, which he cultivated in conjunction with the mining of iron-ore. Though at a later period his residence was changed, a spacious dwelling erected by his father becoming his home, he continues his customary pursuits as a miner and farmer. For a number of years he was

Pa. Mr. Freas was for many years superintendent of the Sunday-school of his church.

SILAS CLEAVER.

The Cleaver family are of German antecedents, though little is known of the advent of the first representative in America or of his immediate descendants. Salathiel Cleaver, the father of Silas, a brief sketch of whose life is here given, was a resident of Montgomery County, where he followed farming pursuits during his active life. To his wife, Mary Shoemaker, were born five sons,—Nathan, Josiah, Daniel, Silas and John. The birth of Silas, of this number, occurred on

the 7th of February, 1819, on his father's farm, in Gwynedd township. He was educated at the boarding-school of Joseph Foulke, in Gwynedd, and at the age of nineteen repaired to Whitemarsh township, where he entered the mill of William Ely for the purpose of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the miller's trade. On completing his apprenticeship he removed to Walnut Mill, in Lower Dublin township, and became the lessee of a mill, which he operated for a period of eight years. Mr. Cleaver, at the expiration of this time, purchased a mill property at Wissahickon, in Whitemarsh township, which, in connection with his brother John, he operated for thirty-six years. Hav-

He was a member of the Corn Exchange of Philadelphia for many years, and at his death a director of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He was by birthright a Friend, and worshiped with the Plymouth Meeting. Mr. Cleaver, though a man of modest and unobtrusive demeanor, wielded a commanding influence in the township. His sterling integrity in all matters of business won the respect of the community, while the qualities of gentleness, kindness and sympathy caused him to be greatly beloved by those who, through daily intercourse, became familiar with the tender and loving heart and the generous and unselfish nature.



John Cleaver

ing during this time been assiduous in his devotion to business, it was his intention to have abandoned active labor in connection with the mill, and he retired to a home he had purchased. His life was, however, suddenly ended on the 18th of February, 1884, before this project was consummated. Mr. Cleaver was, on the 9th of March, 1848, married to Miss Mary E., daughter of John Ruppert, of Lower Dublin, who survives him. In politics the subject of this sketch was a Republican, his affiliations having formerly been with the Whig party. Apart from the office of school director, he held no official positions in the township.

JOHN CLEAVER.

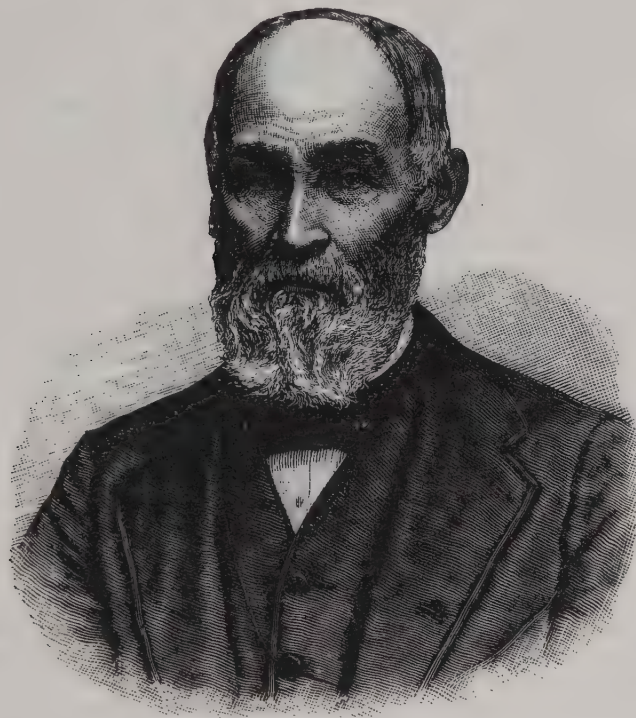
Salathiel Cleaver, the son of Nathan and Ruth Cleaver, who was of German descent, and born on the 10th of August, 1780, was numbered among the enterprising farmers of Montgomery County, his residence during his lifetime. He married Mary, daughter of Daniel Shoemaker, of Upper Dublin township, Montgomery Co., who was of Welsh extraction, and had children,—Nathan, Josiah and Daniel (deceased), Silas and John. The last-named and youngest of the number, who is the subject of this biographical sketch, was born November 1, 1822, on the home-



Silas Cleaver

stead, in Montgomery township. Here his youth, until the age of nineteen, was spent, his education having been received at a private school on his father's property, and later at the boarding-school under the direction of Joseph Foulke. He decided upon acquiring a trade, and chose that of a miller, entering as apprentice a mill on the Pennypack stream, near Bustleton. Two and a half years after, having completed his apprenticeship, he repaired to Byberry, in Philadelphia County, and spent a year as journeyman, at the expiration of which period he formed a copartnership with William Buckman, and continued this business relation for two years. In the spring of 1848 an ad-

ried, on the 11th of November, 1852, to Miss Sarah Jane, daughter of Chalkley and Ann Jarrett Kenderdine, of Horsham township, Montgomery Co. Their children are William J.; Anna K., wife of George Rex; Ella (deceased); Chalkley K., married to A. Laura White; Mary R.; Emma; Sallie; Tacey K.; and Silas, Jr. (deceased). Mr. Cleaver has for twenty-five years been a member of the Commercial Exchange of Philadelphia. He was formerly, in politics, an Old-Line Whig, and readily adopted the platform of the Republican party on its organization. Aside from the exercise of his privilege as a voter, he, however, finds little leisure for participation in mat-



D. W. Yeakel

vantageous opportunity was offered in connection with his brother Silas, who owned a mill in Whitemarsh township. This copartnership of social and business relations of the most agreeable character continued until the death of the senior partner, in the spring of 1884, William J. and Chalkley Cleaver having been admitted to the firm in 1883, under the name of S. & J. Cleaver & Sons. The mill has been greatly improved, much new machinery and many modern appliances having been introduced, and its capacity largely increased. In the fall of 1876, Mr. Cleaver purchased the farm adjoining the mill property, known as the Peter Phipps farm. He was mar-

ters of political import. He was in religion reared a Hicksite Friend, and with his family worships at Plymouth Meeting.

DAVID W. YEAKEL.

Mr. Yeakel is the great-grandson of Christopher Yeakel, who emigrated to America in 1734, and married Susanna Schultz. Among their sons was Abraham, who was united in marriage to Sarah, daughter of Christopher Wagner, whose children were Isaac, born in 1777; Samuel, in 1779; Jacob, in 1780; Susannah, in 1782; Maria, in 1784; and Christopher, in 1787. Isaac, of this number, whose birth occurred

November 9, 1777, married Regina, daughter of Andrew Schultz, on the 4th of November, 1800. Their children were Jacob S., born in 1802; Sarah, in 1805; Samuel, in 1807; John, in 1809; Charlotte, in 1811; Emeline, in 1814; Daniel, in 1816; Mary, in 1818; and David W., the subject of this sketch. Isaac Yeakel died on the 23d of October, 1847, and his wife, Regina, on the 16th of January, 1860. The birth of their youngest son, David W., occurred on the 30th of December, 1821, in Springfield township, where the early years of his life were spent. After a period of youth devoted to the acquirement of a plain English

marsh township, settled near Lafayette Hill, where he at present resides, having some years since retired from active business. He was, in his early political associations, a Whig, and joined the ranks of the Republican party on its formation. He has neither desired nor accepted office, nor been actively allied with the working phalanx of the party. He was a loyal supporter of the Union during the late war and actively interested in filling the quota for his township. Mr. Yeakel is not identified by membership with any religious denomination, though his belief is that of the New Church (Swedenborgian).



James M. Coulston

education, he began the routine of farm labor, and continued thus occupied until thirty years of age, when, being ambitious for a larger sphere of industry than was opened in his native county, he removed to Lehigh County, Pa., and engaged in the foundry and machine business at Allentown. Here he remained nine years, having meanwhile, in September, 1852, married Sarah Lentz, of Whitmarsh township. Their children are John L., married to Bertha Hellings, who had four children; George K., of Whitmarsh; and M. Lula. Mr. Yeakle, on his return to White-

JAMES M. COULSTON.

The Coulston family is of Welsh descent, the grandfather of James M. having been William Coulston, who resided in Whitmarsh township, where he was an enterprising farmer. His children were Charles, William, John, Thomas, Mary (Mrs. William Kettler) and Sarah (Mrs. Jacob Rohrer). William Coulston was born August 9, 1797, in Whitmarsh, where he devoted his active life to farming employments. He married Ann, daughter of Joseph and Hannah Meredith, whose birth occurred October 29, 1802. Their

children are James M., Elizabeth and Hannah. William Coulston died April 17, 1863, in his sixty-sixth year, and his wife, Ann, March 25, 1833, in her thirty-first year. Their son, James M., was born on the 27th of January, 1831, in Whitmarsh. His youth was similar to that of other lads whose parents were farmers. At the age of eight years he removed with the family to his present home, attended school for a period and lent a willing hand at the labor of the farm. He was married, April 7, 1857, to T. Amanda, daughter of Joseph and Ann Freas, of the same township, and granddaughter of George and Barbara Freas. Their children are Ann Freas (Mrs. Daniel Maguire), Alice Hinckley (Mrs. Harvey Lentz), William Carpenter, Lizzie, Sarah Roser, Francis Coudie, Joseph Percival and Walter. William Coulston, having died in 1863, his son, James M., inherited his portion of the estate and purchased the remainder of the paternal home. Here he has since continued the healthful pursuits of a farmer. He has always affiliated with the Republican party in politics, and served as a school director of his district. He is also a director of the Montgomery Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and active in the promotion of the best interests of the township of which he is a representative citizen. He is identified as a member with Marble Hall Lodge, No 351, of Independent Order of Odd-Fellows. He adheres to the faith of the Society of Friends, and worships with the Plymouth Meeting.

CHARLES WILLIAMS.¹

Charles Williams, born Fourth Month 11, 1814, married Fourth Month 27, 1837.

He very decidedly prefers having a biographical sketch of his wife's father, Charles Stokes.

Charles Stokes, farmer, of Rancocas, son of David and Ann Stokes, born in Willingborough (now Beverly), in the county of Burlington, N. J., Eighth Month 12, 1791, traces his genealogy from Thomas Stokes, of London, England, who was born in 1640, married Mary Barnard, daughter of John Barnard, Tenth Month 30, 1668, and settled in Burlington County, N. J., soon after the making of "The Concessions and agreements of the proprietors, freeholders and inhabitants of the province of West Jersey, in America." To this instrument he was a party. This constitution or form of government for the province was thus characterized, in a letter to Richard Hartshorne, by William Penn, Gawen Lawrie, Nicholas Lucas and others, dated Sixth Month 25, 1676: "There we lay a foundation for after ages to understand their liberty as men and Christians, that they may not be brought into bondage but by their own consent, for we put the power in the people, etc., etc. In it was established a representative form of government, trial by jury

and liberty of conscience, all conscisely, but fully set forth, especially the last, which commences with the memorable declaration that no 'men nor number of men upon earth hath power or authority to rule other men's consciences in religious matters,' etc."

Although it formed "the common law or fundamental rights and privileges of West New Jersey," it has been but little improved in this or any other county since its promulgation, though two centuries have elapsed.

Thomas Stokes became the proprietor of a farm on the north side of the North Branch of the Rancocas River, about three miles west of Mount Holly, and had three sons,—John, Thomas and Joseph,—all of whom were farmers. The latter two were heads of large families of children, by whom the name has been widely extended. John, who married Elizabeth Green, daughter of Thomas Green, and granddaughter of Arthur Green, of Bugbroke, county of Northton, England, became proprietor of a farm on the north side of the Rancocas River, less than two miles westwardly of his father's location. He had but one son, John, who married Hannah, daughter of Jervis Stockdale, and succeeded his father on his farm on the Rancocas. He left three sons,—John, David and Jervis. David married Ann, the daughter of John and Elizabeth Lancaster, of Bucks County, Pa., and succeeded his father on the farm on the Rancocas; he had four sons, named Israel, John L., Charles and David Stokes, but no daughters. Charles Stokes married Tacy, daughter of William and Ann Jarrett, Montgomery County, Pa., Tenth Month 18, 1816. He erected buildings and commenced business on part of the homestead farm on the Rancocas River. They had three sons—David (who died when an infant), Jarrett and William—and three daughters—Hannah, Alice and Annie—married as follows: Jarrett, married Martha, daughter of William and Hannah Hilyard; William, married Annie, daughter of James and Rebecca McIlvaine; Hannah, married Charles, son of Joseph and Ann Williams; Alice, married William, son of J. R. and Letitia P. Parry; and Annie, married Chalkley, son of John and Ann Albertson,—all forming an unbroken succession of farmers, including a space of nearly two centuries, and continuing to the present time. Charles Stokes, the subject of this sketch, received the greater portion of his school education at Friends' School, at Rancocas.

At a time when but few aspired to anything further than such branches as were thought necessary to qualify for the ordinary business of life, he, having a taste for study and the acquisition of knowledge, with a few others of about the same time of life, availed themselves of an opportunity which presented, and took a deep interest in advanced studies, particularly of a mathematical character. These tended to enlarge his views and stimulate in his mind a desire to obtain useful knowledge from every available source. Books

¹ Written by the family.

of a character to gratify this desire were but few and hard to be obtained in the vicinity of his residence. No library existed nearer than Burlington, five miles distant, where was an ancient and good collection of books for that day. In addition to this, he was professed by Joshua Wallan, a venerable citizen of Burlington, the free use of his extensive private library. He now commenced a study of history, seeking to make himself acquainted with the rise and fall of nations and the acts of distinguished characters who had signalized themselves in the different departments of life. Love of liberty and aversion to tyranny of every description appeared to be inwrought in his nature, and he felt it to be his mission to cherish and support the one and discountenance the other on every proper occasion, and by all suitable means.

He endeavored to make himself acquainted with the history, constitution and laws of his State and country, to judge of the acts of such as were in power to administer them calmly and without excitement, and in his own judgment mete out impartial justice to all.

In his early life he became impressed with the conviction that Infinite Wisdom was not unmindful of man after his introduction into this life, but, by His omniscience and omnipresence, was always with him as a sure and unfailing rule, to rightly instruct him in all things in matters of duty, furnishing ability to perform it, providing the terms were accepted.

This conviction, deeply engraven, had much influence in moulding his character and pursuits. He endeavored in all things so to conduct himself that his mind would be at ease and avoid remorse, being satisfied that this rule of life gave all the liberty necessary for its enjoyments and would qualify for its duties.

Agriculture was the pursuit chosen by him. He labored on his father's farm during the summer months, teaching the balance of the year. This was continued for several years, keeping him in sympathy with the manual laborer, and also brightening what he had acquired of school learning, and furnishing opportunities for extended improvement. His time was occasionally employed in surveying land, writing, and taking acknowledgments of deeds, etc., being a master in the Court of Chancery, settling estates and performing the duties of township offices, as township committee, clerk, chosen freeholder, etc. He was one of the originators and stockholders of the Mount Holly Insurance Company, an institution organized in 1831, with which he was identified from its commencement, and served until his decease as a member of its finance committee. In the fall of 1830, without his wish or desire, he was elected a member of the House of Assembly for the county of Burlington. After taking his seat the first duty presented to his mind was to have repealed an enact-

ment to pay a chaplain for services at the State Prison, and this was effected on the ground that the constitution as it then stood prohibited the payment of money for the support of a ministry, etc. In those days New Jersey did not have any clergyman to open the session of the Legislature with prayer. The old sentiments embodied in the "concessions and agreements" had not become entirely obliterated in the minds of the people, and legislative bodies left the important matter of approaching Infinite Mercy in supplication to the individual members. It was believed by Charles Stokes to have been quite as well done and with more safety to our religious liberties.

In 1831 the constitution required the Legislature to be elected and meet in the fall of the year, the custom being to meet, organize, perform a few official acts and adjourn to an early day in the ensuing year. At this adjourned session in 1831, Dr. W. B. Ewin, an old and influential member from Cumberland, moved that J. Hancock (a worthy member from Morris) should open the session with prayer. Charles Stokes objected to the right of the House, by resolutions or otherwise, to direct a member to perform an act of this kind, stating that if any member should find it to be a duty to engage in the solemn act of public invocation he would be among the last to object. Hancock arose and stated that such was his case, but he did not wish to impose upon the House without consent.

Charles Stokes then withdrew his objections, whereupon Hancock knelt, and the House arose, as by common consent, without vote. The prayer was impressive and accompanied by due solemnity. When the House was about to close, *sine die*, and the members separate to their several homes, Hancock made a short address, suited to the occasion, and said if there was no objection he would address the Throne of Grace in supplication. The House (without vote) manifested their approval by rising, and a fervent prayer was uttered by Hancock; immediately the Speaker pronounced an adjournment without delay, and the members separated to their respective homes with much friendly feeling. At the preceding session of the Legislature two companies were incorporated, one to unite by canal the waters of the Delaware and Raritan Rivers, the other to construct a railroad from Camden to Amboy, under the names of Camden and Amboy Railroad Company, and Delaware and Raritan Canal Company.

Stock was taken; both companies organized and commenced operations. In the session of 1830-31 the Canal Company asked for additional powers to enable them to build a railroad on the bank of their canal. This was vigorously opposed by the Railroad Company, and upon this point the House of Assembly was nearly equally divided. The result was the introduction of a bill to unite the two companies under the name of the Delaware and Raritan



Charles Williams

Canal and Camden and Amboy Railroad and Transportation Company.

This was opposed by Charles Stokes, on the ground that the location of the works and the union of two such companies would concentrate a power not to be managed or controlled by the State.

The union was sanctioned by the Legislature, and at the ensuing session an act was passed prohibiting any other railroad being built to compete in business with the works of the joint companies, thus giving them the exclusive right of transportation and travel between New York and Philadelphia, which for many years greatly retarded the improvement of the State. During all this time Charles Stokes, always a friend of the companies, but steadily and unyieldingly opposed to their monopoly privileges, with a few others, by availing themselves of every suitable opportunity, at length had the gratification of seeing the State enfranchised and freed from the incubus which had paralyzed every effort in the way of railroad improvement.

At the close of the session he retired to an active private life, positively refusing to be again a candidate, until the public became much divided in regard to the policy of Andrew Jackson, President, concerning the Bank of the United States. His refusal to allow the bank further to receive the revenues of the government on deposit created much excitement and dissatisfaction with a large portion of the community; so much so that but comparatively few would speak in advocacy of his measures. That there might be no doubt as to his opinion Charles Stokes permitted his name to be used as a candidate for Council in the State Legislature, in connection with others who approved of the policy of the President. They were defeated then, as was expected, but very soon the public sentiment subsequently became so much changed upon the subject that in the fall of 1836 he was returned a member of the Legislative Council.

Having discharged this trust in such a way as to meet his own approval, he declined a further candidacy and again resumed his former avocation. The Legislature of New Jersey passed an act providing for an election of delegates to meet in convention to frame a constitution for the government of the State, Second Month 23, 1844. Charles Stokes was elected a member of this body, and Fifth Month 14th of the same year took his seat at the organization of the convention, which was composed of men distinguished for talent and high moral character, selected with the intention that party preferences should be balanced.

Early in the session R. S. Field offered a resolution "that the sittings of the convention be opened every morning with prayer, and that the clergymen of the city of Trenton and its vicinity be invited to officiate on such occasions." Charles Stokes said that he appreciated the importance of the service for which they

were assembled and the necessity for Divine assistance to enable them to wisely perform their duties. They were in their seats representing different sections of the State, the whole people and the interests of all. Different views, no doubt, were entertained with regard to the proper mode of offering prayer, and each one was entitled to his opinion; and no man, nor number of men, had a right to impose religious services upon another, contrary to what he believed to be right. The provisions of the eighteenth and nineteenth sections of the Constitution of 1776, which they had bound themselves, by solemn asseveration, to maintain, guaranteed this protection, and up to this time had been sacredly observed. If now, on this momentous occasion, they should sanction the principle embraced in the resolution offered by the member from Mercer, they would open a door for practices, for legislation, leading to a subversion of liberty of conscience, to a union of church and state; Legislatures would have imposed upon them prayers, gratuitously for a time, but soon compensated by enforced taxation.

He believed the mind should always be in the attitude of prayer, that men should "pray without ceasing," that they should do their own praying, and not by proxy.

He was satisfied with Scripture doctrine; that such things as are revealed belong to us, and those things that are secret and not revealed belong to the Great Fountain-Head and source of all good. It is truly wonderful, his disregard of popularity and determination to uphold what he believed to be right. His life was one of remarkable energy and activity throughout all of seventy-five years of the same, was exceedingly useful, desirous of wearing out instead of rusting out. He was prompt to form opinions of measures touching public welfare, and solicitous to discharge every duty. He was well informed in matters of law, and when consulted on those points gratuitously gave counsel and advice; and where parties were at variance his advice rarely failed to promote harmony. He lived to the advanced age of ninety-one years. His death occurred Second Month 27, 1882. He was buried in Friends' burial-ground, Rancocas, N. J.

He attributed his long and happy career through life to the fact that he always endeavored to follow that beacon, "The Light within," which never misled or betrayed his conscience. The rule of life by which he had lived proved to be a perfectly safe one in the hour of death. He bore his illness with resignation, and remarked "that Divine Providence has been good to me; I have the comforts of life and am surrounded and cared for by a loving and attentive family. The manifestations of friendship on the part of others is exceedingly joyful to me; I love them all; I do not entertain an unkind feeling for any one. I feel that life is ebbing away; I am resigned. My mission is nearly ended; I am prepared and ready to die." Thus ended a long, happy, useful and well-spent life.

CHAPTER LXXX.

WHITPAIN TOWNSHIP.¹

In the years 1681, 1682 and 1683, William Penn, the proprietary, executed leases and re-leases to Samuel Fox for fifteen hundred acres; Charles Marshall, two thousand acres; and James Claypole, one thousand acres. James Claypole shortly afterwards sold his tract to John Marshall, containing in all four thousand five hundred acres. Richard Whitpain, citizen and butcher of the town of London, subsequently became seized in fee of the whole four thousand five hundred acres.

This tract, to distinguish it from the rest of Whitpain's purchases, was called or known by the name of "Whitpain's Creek," situated in Philadelphia County.

Richard Whitpain made his will and testament, dated April 27, 1689, and willed the payment of his debts and funeral expenses, and authorized his wife, Mary, his executrix, to sell so much of his lands in the province as she should find needful for the payment thereof, and shortly after the said testator died.

Mary Whitpain, in accordance with the provision of the will, by her indenture dated July 30, 1689, sold the entire tract to Mary Davice, John Eldridge, William Ingram, John Blackhall and John Vace, all of whom were creditors. Shortly afterward John Blackhall, the surviving trustee, sold the great tract above named to William Aubrey, of the town of London.

William Aubrey, by his indenture dated April 24, 1713, sold the tract to Anthony Morris, maltster and brewer of Philadelphia, and Rees Thomas, of the township of Merion.

John Whitpain (the only surviving son and heir-at-law of Zachary Whitpain, and also heir-at-law to his uncle, John Whitpain, which John Whitpain, the uncle of the oldest son and heir-at-law of Richard Whitpain) became dissatisfied with the sale. An agreement was entered into, dated May 28, 1718, by which the entire tract fell into the hands of Morris Rees and Whitpain, and they requested of the commissioners a resurvey thereof.

In pursuance of a warrant from the commissioners, dated Third Month 20, 1726, the property was resurveyed by Nicholas Scull, May 23, 1727, and found to contain four thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight acres.

John Whitpain made his last will, dated December 20, 1718, and willed the property that was due him (real estate), according to the agreement made with Morris and Thomas, his portion thereof, to his two children, Sarah and Zachariah, and left his wife, Ann, his executrix. Concerning the Whitpain family, Buck, the historian writes,—

"Zachariah Whitpain removed on the same the summer of 1685, if not earlier, and making extensive improvements, he settled on the property a number of tenants. In 1686 he married Sarah Owens, and was ap-

pointed by the Governor's Council, with Thomas Holmes and Lacey Cox, to make inquiry into the cause of the Indian disturbances at the house of Nicholas Scull, grandfather of the Surveyor General, near the present village of Whitemarsh. He died near the latter end of March, 1693, and was buried in Philadelphia. Mention is made in the Colonial Records of a visit paid by Thomas Jenner and Polycarpus Rose, in December of said year, to his plantation. His widow, in 1697, married Charles Saunders. He left a son of the same name, who died in March, 1702. It would appear that he lived a portion of the time in the city."

This township is among the oldest in the county, being mentioned as "Whitpain's township" as early as 1701, when the township of Plymouth was first laid out, and is one of the central townships of the county, bounded on the north by Worcester, east by Upper Dublin and Gwynedd, south by Whitemarsh and west by Plymouth and Norriton. It is of regular form, four and a half miles in length and three in breadth, and contains about eight thousand six hundred and forty acres.

The soil is shale and loam, and near the southern corner a strip of sandy soil predominates. On almost all of the farms south of the Stony Creek good quarries of fine building-sand can be found.

The township forms a summit-level, from which the water flows in different directions. The eastern and southern portions are drained by the Wissahickon Creek, which crosses the eastern angle and propels two grist-mills.

The word "Wissahickon," according to Heckewelder, is an Indian name, and in their language signifies the "catfish stream, or the stream of yellow water."

On Holme's map of surveys (begun in 1681) it is called Whitpain's Creek.

Two branches of the Stony Creek have their rise in the township, and drain the western and northern portions, one of which furnishes water to propel one saw-mill and one grist-mill.

Land-holders, Population and Taxables.—In 1734 there were 24 land-holders, as follows: Philip Boehm, 200 acres; Peter Indehaven (Dehaven), 200; Cadwalader Morris, 200; John Rees, 150; William Coulston, 100; Humphrey Ellis, 50; William Robinson, 150; Thomas Fitzwater, 150; Henry Levering, 100; Alexander Till, 100; Henry Conrad, 200; Jacob Yost, 80; George Franks, 200; William Roberts, 100; Daniel Burn, 40; John David, 170; Isaac Williams, 100; George Castner, 200; William David, 100; Peter Hoxworth, 100; John Thomas, 100; John Mircle, 100; Jacob Levering, 100; and Abram Daws, 350.

John Philip Boehm, Henry Conrad, Jacob Yost, Jacob and Henry Levering, Peter In De Haven and John Mircle (Markley) were Germans, and paid quit-rent.

The lineal descendants of Dehaven, Conrad, Yost and Daws still own a portion, and some the original plantation.

Eight or nine of the aforementioned were Welsh, six or eight German and the remainder English. The English were the first to take up and locate, followed by the Welsh, and as early as 1711 we find the Germans making inroads and locating farms. So numerous

¹ By Jones, Detwiler.



"BLYTHEWOOD."

RESIDENCE OF THOMAS A. BIDDLE.
WHITPAIN TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY CO., PA.

have their descendants become that at the last Presidential election held in 1880 nearly three-fourths of the voters were of that extract.

Number of taxables in 1741, 56; 1762, 80; 1785, 144 and 14 single men; 1788, 119 and 19 single men; 1800, 140; 1828, 249; 1858, 344; 1860, 358; 1875, 345; 1883, 456.

In 1785 land was valued at £4 10s. per acre; 175 horses at £10 per head; 346 cattle at £3 per head; 2 bound servants at £20; one phaeton, £30; 2 grist-mills, £700; 1 saw-mill, £150; one oil-mill, £50; 2 tan-yards, £300; (now none, in 1884). In 1786 land was valued at £4 15s. per acre; 1787, £5; 1788-89, £5 2s. 6d; 1796, \$8; 1800, \$10; 1810, \$10; 1820, \$30; 1830, \$30; 1840, \$20; 1860, \$50; 1870, —? 1880, 150.

Population: 1790, —? 1800, 771; 1810, 995; 1820, 1126; 1830, 1137; 1850, 1351; 1870, 1350; 1880, 1429.

Taxes,—1777: whole amount of supply tax £241 11s. 7d.; stationary tax, £251 8s. 9½d. 1785: whole amount of duplicate, £91 6s. 6d. 1788: £187, 1s. 1d. 1794: £90 12s. 6d. 1800: \$355.17. 1810: \$520.18. 1860: whole amount of county tax, \$1549.41; State tax, \$1291.67. 1880: county tax, \$2497.50; State tax, \$412.00. 1883: whole amount of duplicate for county tax, \$2410.59.

In 1811 the assessor returned 99 dogs liable to taxation according to the act of Assembly, March 23, 1809, which amounted to \$27.

The tri-annual assessment for the year 1880 is reported as follows: 394 taxables; value of all real estate, \$1,305,580; value of all household furniture exceeding \$300, including gold and silver plate, \$3900; horses, mares, geldings and mules 419, valued at \$26,565; cattle 851, valued at \$24,545; notes and bonds, \$5400; occupations, \$31,050; pleasure carriages 103, valued at \$6525; aggregate amount of property taxable for county purposes, at the rate of two and one-half mills to the dollar, \$1,403,565; mortgages and judgments, \$83,000; number of gold watches, 12; common watches, 2.

In 1788 there were 90 farms, the largest, James Morris, 350 acres; 1883, largest farm, Albanus Styer, 150 acres; number of farms of 100 acres and upwards, 13; number of farms of 80 acres and under 100, 15; number of farms of 50 acres and under 80, 24; whole number of farms over 20 acres, 125; 1883, whole number of horses taxable, 389; cows, 821, William Slingerly being the largest owner of stock, having 10 heads of horses, and 61 cows taxable.

The Styer family are the largest property-holders, holding in the aggregate 555 acres. Next largest, William Slingerly, 191 acres.

Slaves or Servants.—In the assessment of 1763 three slaves are there mentioned.

During the Revolution there were several families that held slaves. In the *Pennsylvania Packet* of September 26, 1777, "David Knox offers a reward of twenty dollars for the return and recovery of a mulatto wench, 26 years old, named Stiffany." The last

that were held in the district were those of James Morris, two in number, but were freed prior to the year 1799.

Industries.—The chief occupation of the inhabitants has been farming, there being no minerals (yet discovered) to induce them to engage in other pursuits.

The land is now generally cleared and under a high state of cultivation, and produces good crops.

The first industry that we have any notice of was that of weaving, carried on in a small log house near Centre Square by Jacob Yost, in 1727. In 1732 he purchased what is known as the "Yost Farm," and carried on the business more extensively.

The Yosts were famed far and near for their sickles, scythes and edge-tools, which they made and carried on from 1760 to 1816 at the old homestead. These implements were all forged by hand. In 1746 the first grist-mill in the township was built, on Stony Creek, in the western portion, near the lines of Norriton and Worcester. The mill is yet standing.

James Morris, in the latter part of 1779 or 1780, built the grist-mill long known as Wertner's Mill. This was considered the best flouring-mill in the neighborhood.

About the year 1804, Charles Mathers built a mill along the Wissahickon.

In the assessment of 1785 there are two tanneries mentioned and one oil-mill.

The Conrad augers were first manufactured by John Conrad about the year 1806, and the business was carried on extensively until 1857, when it was removed to Fort Washington, Whitemarsh, and still continued by his sons, Albert and Isaac Conrad.

The one horse-power and threshing-machines were made at the Blue Bell by Samuel F. Shaeff in 1847.

Mowing and reaping-machines were first introduced and worked by Robert Findlay, of Centre Square. The machine was the Hussey pattern, and when in order for reaping took eight hands, including the driver, to operate it.

Justices of the Peace.—The first justice was Abram Daws, commissioned May 25, 1752. (Col. Rec. vol. vi).

June 6, 1777, Andrew Knox was appointed justice of the peace, and held that position until the time of his death, January, 1808.

Job Roberts and John Wentz were commissioned justices of the peace May 26, 1798, and filled that position until 1878.

In 1818, John Shenenberger was appointed, and filled that position by appointment and election until about the year 1856. John Heist and John Rile filled the position.

Since the change in the Constitution of 1838 the following persons have been justices: David Roberts, John Styer, Jacob Fisher, Ephraim H. Shearer, Jacob R. Yost, Jacob L. Rex, George G. McNeil and Victor Baker.

During the Revolution the citizens of the town-

ship shared the trials and conflicts of that dark period along with the other districts of the county.

According to the act of Assembly passed June 13, 1777, the county of Philadelphia was divided into seven battalions. The township of Whitpain was in the Fifth, and John Rynear captain.

During the Revolutionary struggle, Brig.-Gen. Weeden's regiment of Virginia troops was encamped from October 19th to November 2, 1777, on the Morris and Gregar farms. The former is now owned by Saunders Lewis, and the latter by William Heyward Drayton.

about six miles from Norristown, three from White-marsh and one from Ambler Station, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad.

The present owner, Phœbe M. Lewis (wife of Saunders Lewis), represents by inheritance the fifth generation of continuous ownership: through her mother, Hannah M., wife of Dr. Thomas C. James; her grandmother, Elizabeth, wife of James Morris; her great grandfather, Abraham Dawes (son), whose father, Abraham Dawes, purchased four hundred acres of land in the year 1726, and of which the house, with a tract of one hundred and eight acres, is a part.



Residence of Saunders Lewis, Esq.

Condition in 1884.

WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS, "JAMES MORRIS" OCTOBER, 1777.

During their stay here the weather was very wet, rain falling almost every day. The soldiers were compelled to seek shelter during the night in the barns of the neighborhood. Several of the soldiers died here from sickness, and are buried in the graveyard at Boehm's Church.

Gen. Washington, during the time of the encampment, had his headquarters in the house then owned by James Morris. The house was built in the year 1736, and remains substantially in its original proportions, with the addition of a south wing (twenty-four feet by twenty-three feet), built in the year 1821. It is situated in Whitpain township, Montgomery County, between the Skippack and Morris roads;

Washington having removed his headquarters from Worcester to Dawsfield House (now the name of the property), called Camp Whippin, or James Morris, as appears by letters addressed by Col. Walter Stuart to President Wharton, dated "Camp Whippin, October 27, 1777," in Hazzard, and one other, by Gen. Reed to President Wharton, dated "Headquarters, James Morris', seventeen miles from Philadelphia, on the Skippack road, October 30, 1777," in which he says,—"The long residence of the army in this quarter has proven very distressing to the inhabitants, whose forage must be drawn from their subsistence."¹

¹ "Life and Correspondence of President Reed," edited by his grandson William B. Reed, Phila., 1847, vol. i., p. 332.

In the *Pennsylvania Packet*, August 29, 1878, the following appeared:

"Thirty Dollars reward. Stolen from Camp Whippin, 20th of October, 1777, a bay horse, fourteen hands high, with a bald face, and is six years old. The reward will be paid by applying to Andrew Porter, Capt. of Artillery, or Stephen Porter, Worcester township."

"Washington, in his march from Pennypacker's Mills to the Battle of Germantown, passed through the township. His course lay along the Skippack Road. Isaac McGlathery, a well-known and respected citizen of the district, acted as a guide to Maxwell's Brigade on that occasion, and led the way until a short distance of Chew's house."

After the fatal battle, during the retreat of the American army, a slight skirmish took place at Oil Mill Run, on the Skippack road, near the Broad Axe. A few were slightly wounded.

"The English Cavalry pursued the Americans on the Skippack Road, 10½ miles from Philadelphia, into Whitpain Township, as far as the Blue Bell. We have heard from an old friend, a witness, now at that place, that our militia was already there when the British cavalry arrived, and wheeled about to make good their retreat and return. He describes the confusion that existed among the Americans as past the power of description; sadness and consternation was expressed in every countenance. While the dead and dying (which had preceded this halt at the Blue Bell) were before seen moving onward for refuge, there could be seen many anxious women and children rushing to the scene to learn the fate of their friends, and to meet, if they could, the fathers, brothers, or other relatives who had been before sent forward for the engagement. Again and again the American officers were seen riding or running to the front of the militia with their drawn swords, threatening or persuading them to face about and meet the foe; but all efforts seemed to fail, and officers and men were still seen everywhere borne along on the retreat. They broke down fences and rushed away in confusion, as if determined no longer to hazard the chances of war in another onset."¹

"Andrew Knox, a prominent citizen of the Township, took an active part in the struggle for Independence. Having served as a Captain of a Volunteer Company, and rendered effectual service, Washington selected him as one, for his courage and efficiency, to prevent supplies being carried to the British army during their occupation of Philadelphia."

Upon the news reaching Gen. Howe of his appointment, Howe immediately offered a reward of one thousand four hundred pounds sterling for Mr. Knox's head, dead or alive, and dispatched a squad of men to capture him.

"About four o'clock, on the morning of the 14th of February, 1778, seven armed refugees approached his house; two stood sentry at the back windows, while the other five attempted the door. Mr. Knox, seizing the opening door with his left hand, and with a cutlass in the other, saluted the aggressors in a manner they did not expect, and repeating his strokes. The assailants meanwhile made repeated thrusts with their bayonets. By these Mr. Knox received two or three very slight flesh-wounds, and had his jacket pierced in several places, but the door standing ajar covered his vitals and saved his life. The attacking party presented their pieces and fired five balls and several buckshot through the door, one of the balls slightly wounding Squire Knox. Thinking the reports of the guns would alarm the neighborhood, the enemy retreated towards the city."²

Buck, the historian, in speaking of the affair, states "that the attack was made by the Tories of the neighborhood, the principal of which was Enoch Supplee, of Norriton, and who immediately fled, and, is supposed, joined De Lacey's battalion, in which he became an ensign, and in 1780 was sent to Georgia, where they got into a spirited skirmish with a detachment of Gen. Pickens' command."

"Esquire Knox, at the approach of day, collected some friends and went in pursuit. They tracked the party several miles by the blood on the snow. One of them, who took refuge in a house, was taken, brought back and made an ample confession. This fellow, being found to be a deserter from the American Army, was tried by a court-martial for desertion only, but condemned and executed near Montgomery Square. Another was apprehended after the British left Philadelphia, condemned by a civil court, and was executed."³

The desperation of the struggle at Knox's house is shown by the bullet-holes through the door and bayonet-marks. The door is preserved, and still kept in the family of his grandson, Hon. Thomas P. Knox.

"At a meeting of Council, held in Philadelphia, February 24th, 1783, a letter was read from the Commissioners of the County, that John Shearer and Henry Conard, Collectors of Whitpain, had been robbed of Township Funds."⁴

This robbery was perpetrated by the notorious band of Doan's, of Bucks County, and occurred one dark night at the cross-roads, where the Sandy Hill school-house now stands.

According to the Act of Assembly, passed September 21, 1782, Daniel Yost was appointed assessor to assess the damage done to the inhabitants during the time that Gen. Howe held possession of Philadelphia, and returned the amount at six hundred and ten pound. The heaviest loss was appraised in favor of the Knox family.

Churches.—There are at present in the township four places of public worship, viz.: Boehm's (Reformed), St. John's (Lutheran), Union (Methodist) and Mount Pleasant (Baptist). In its early settlement there was little homogeneity among the emigrants to its borders; a century ago we find a great mixture of people, differing in lineage and religious faith; and so it has continued until the present day, comprising Friends, who either attended Gwynedd or Plymouth Meetings, Reformed, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptists.

BOEHM'S REFORMED CHURCH, so called from its founder, is the oldest place of worship in the township and is situated at the intersection of the Blue Bell and Penlyn turnpike road with the old and ancient road, leading from North Wales to Plymouth, near the village of Blue Bell, and sixteen miles from Philadelphia.

There is no certain data concerning the time of the organization of the church at this place, on account of the early records having all been destroyed. The records of the founder were all kept as his private property, and destroyed by fire more than a half-century ago in an old house then standing at Second and Quarry Streets, Philadelphia, and those of his successor, Schlater, by the British at Chestnut Hill, when the army held possession of Philadelphia.

The earlier members of the church came from the Patatinate, Alsace, Swabia, Saxony and Switzerland between the years 1720 and 1760, and scattered themselves through the townships of Whitpain, Plymouth, Norriton and Upper Dublin.

¹ Watson's "Annals," vol. ii., p. 59.

² Auge's "Lives of the Eminent Dead of Montgomery County."

³ Norritown Register, January, 1808; Auge's "Lives, etc."

⁴ Col. Rec., vol. xiii., p. 515.

Many of them were poor, and were sold as redemptioners to pay their passage over.

In I. D. Rupp's collection of German names, gives the time of their arrival, and the same names are recorded in the church-book. The Yosts arrived in 1727; Engarts, 1728; Clime, 1731; Sheive 1737; Rumer, 1741; Kurr, 1743; Shearer, Eberhard (Everhart), Etris and Korndeffler, 1748; Dull, Greger, Lotz, Klarr, Houser, Martin and Seltzer, 1749; Shaub, 1750; Schlatter, Ernst, Gubler, 1751; Singer, 1752.

The deed for the property, containing one acre of ground, was given February 8, 1748, by John Lewis, of the township of Merion, to the Rev. John Philip Boehm, Michael Clime, Arnold Rettershan and Andrew Acker, church wardens of the said congregation, for the sum of four pounds and tenshillings, "for the use of the congregation of the High Dutch Reformed Church founded by the Christian Synod, held at Dordrecht, in Holland, in the years 1618 and 1619, so that the said congregation shall hold, follow and adhere to the principles of the Heidleberg catechism and in subordination to the Reformed Classis at Amsterdam (Holland), and for no other use, intent or purpose whatsoever."

The first church, a small stone structure with pointed walls, was erected in 1740. At the building of this church Mr. Boehm labored with his own hands.

In 1818 a second church was built, forty-six by fifty feet (the first becoming too small), at a cost of four thousand dollars. This stood until 1870, when it was remodeled to the present size, surmounted with a steeple and bell, at a cost of five thousand four hundred and thirty-eight dollars, and can seat five hundred people.

A neat parsonage, sexton's house and comfortable shedding for thirty-two carriages adjoins the church. The first sheds were erected nearly fifty years ago.

The congregation now, 1884, numbers two hundred active members.

The graveyard adjoins the church and covers nearly three acres of ground, with seven acres adjoining to be used for burial purposes when needed.

All of the communicant members that are contributors, rich or poor, are entitled to lots for their families, without distinction of race or color.

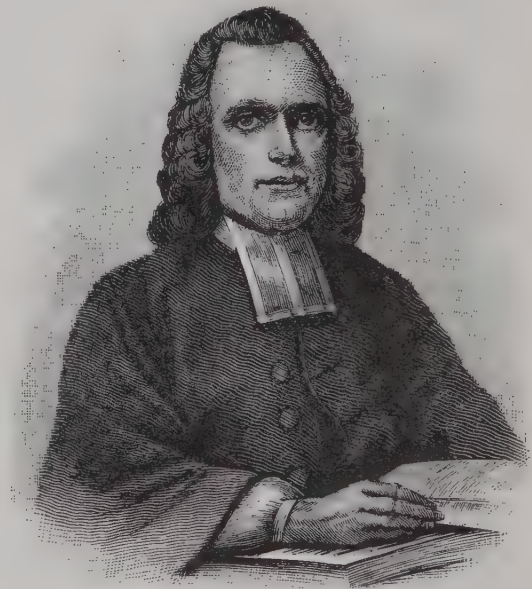
There is a lot of free ground open to all for interment.

The most ancient names found on the tombstones are Knorr, Etris, Martin, Greenawalt, De Haven, Doll, Eberhard, Singer, Sheive, Greger, Yost, Rumer, Schlatter, Shearer, Klair, Spitznogle, Engard and Remig; those of more recent, are Hoover, Earnest, Jones, Detwiler, Dager, Rile, Sechler, Frantz, Wentz, Sholl, Levering, Hentz, Bodey, Wertsner and Selser.

The pastors have been the following: Revs. John Philip Boehm, the founder, from 1740-49; Michael Schlatter, the missionary, 1749-56; 1756-60, supplies; John George Alsentz, 1760-69; Christian Foehring, 1769-72; Gabriel Gebhard, 1772-74; John W. Ingold,

1774-75; John H. Weikel, 1775-76; 1776-83, vacant; John Herman Winkhaus, 1784-87; 1787-89, vacant; Philip Pauli, 1789-93; Thomas Pomp, 1793-96; Samuel Helfenstein, Sr., D.D., 1796-99; for six months in 1799, supplied (Frederick Herman); 1799-1800, Thomas Pomp, Jr.; Gabriel Gobrech, 1800-2; George Wack, 1802-34; Samuel Helfenstein, Jr., 1834-44; William E. Cornwell, 1844-50; Jacob B. Keller, 1850-54; George D. Wolfe, 1854-55; Samuel G. Wagner, 1855-68; Charles G. Fisher, 1868-73; John H. Sechler, 1875 to the present, 1884.

The remains of the founder slumber beneath the walls of the present building, being buried there in 1749. In the yard the remains of the Rev. George Wack, who preached for the congregation thirty years,



REV. MICHAEL SCHLATTER.

Hons. Philip Hoover and Mahlon Sellers, members of the Pennsylvania Legislature, Jacob Yost, Casper Schlatter and Daniel Yost, commissioners of Montgomery County, are interred.

During the Revolution the old church was used for a hospital by Brigadier-General Weeden's brigade, which was encamped on the farms of James Morris and George Greger (now owned by Saunders Lewis and W. Heyward Drayton), near the church. Several soldiers that died in the church and at the camp are buried in the yard, without any stone to point to their final resting-place.

The old record-book still extant was commenced in 1764 by Rev. George Alsentz, pastor; John Marten, Frederick Dull, Jacob Gobler, John Etris, elders; Philip Rittershau and Casper Schlatter, deacons.

The first baptism is that of a child of "John and

Barbara Schlater, baptized May 27, 1764, and received the name of John."

The descendants of Dull and Schlater and Shearer are still in connection with the church as members, and the descendants of the Yosts, down to the sixth generation, are still in membership, and through that long line almost continuously have been officers.

A piece of ground was purchased in 1760 for a school-house, adjoining the church, and a building erected thereon, which was kept for several years as a parochial school, and was almost the first school in the township where public instruction was given.

This congregation was among the earliest to adopt and open a Sunday-school under the present system. On July 17, 1834, a school was opened with one hundred and seventeen scholars, and has been kept open ever since, and now numbers nearly two hundred teachers and scholars.

The following persons have filled the different offices connected with the school since its foundation:

Superintendents: Frederick Nuss, Benjamin Hill, Charles Gearhart, James McCombs, John Fitzgerald, Sr., Anthony Bernhard, Abrm. Dull, Charles H. Rile, Rev. Samuel G. Wagner, Hiram C. Hoover, Rev. Charles G. Fisher, Jones Detwiler and Francis C. Hoover.

Presidents: Rev. Samuel Helfenstein, 1837-43; Rev. William E. Cornwell, 1844-48; John Fitzgerald, 1848-55; Hiram C. Hoover, 1855-58; Rev. S. G. Wagner, 1858-61; Hiram C. Hoover, 1861-84.

Secretaries: Benjamin Hill, Anthony Bernhard, George Hoot, Samuel B. Davis, Charles H. Rile, Jones Detwiler, 1855-84, twenty-nine years.

Treasurers: John Fitzgerald, Charles Gearhart, Samuel B. Davis, Anthony Bernhard, Samuel B. Davis, George Hoot, Abrm. Dull, Jacob Hoover, Samuel D. Shearer, Francis C. Hoover, George Rossiter and Alexander Miller.

REV. JOHN PHILIP BOEHM.—There is nothing at hand to tell us when the subject of this sketch was born. The date of his birth and circumstances of his early life would have probably been learned from certain papers, to which and their loss more particular reference will be hereinafter made. Very little is known of the Rev. Boehm prior to his coming to America. Of the date of his arrival nothing definite is known, nor is it probable that the precise date can ever be known. Certain documents extant enable us to approximate the time.

"Among the Protestants who were subjects to the Emperor of Germany, a Prince in Amity with the Crown of Great Britain, transported themselves and estates into the province of Pennsylvania between the years 1701 and 1718."¹

In the translation of the proceedings of the Classis of Amsterdam in regard to the case of the Rev. John Philip Boehm, held in the city of New York, July,

1728, by the Rev. T. W. Chambers, pastor of the Collegiate Protestant Dutch Church, New York (1876), and published in the *Mercersburg Review*, (vol. xxi., October number, 1876), the following is found:

"From this document it appears that Mr. Boehm arrived in this country as early as the year 1720. He came from the Palatinate. Having been schoolmaster and foresinger in Worms, a city of Germany, for about seven years, he found a demand for his services as reader (*Vorlezer*) upon his arrival here. The Reformed people around him were destitute of the means of grace, and he became a sort of pastor to them, without receiving any compensation for his services. So well did he perform these services for the destitute Reformed people that they besought him to assume the functions of his ministerial office. This he did in 1725, receiving as compensation only the voluntary contributions of the people."

It appears that he began to officiate as a minister before he had a regular license, to which he was no doubt pressed by the peculiar necessities of the times. That it was not a willful disregard of ecclesiastical order may be seen from the fact that as soon as the way was open he cheerfully submitted to a regular introduction into the holy office.

The great influx of the German emigrants began about the year 1707, and in 1730-40 there were nearly twenty thousand Germans in the province, and many were connected with the Reformed Church; hence the necessity of having some one to attend to their spiritual wants,—preaching, catechising and the administration of the ordinances.

Mr. Boehm was the first Reformed (either Dutch or German) that taught the doctrines of the Heidelberg Catechism in the province of Pennsylvania.

When the Rev. Geo. Michael Weiss, the first licensed and ordained minister of the Reformed (German) Church, arrived here, September 21, 1727, he visited Schippach (Skippack) congregation and preached there. This brought him into collision with Mr. Boehm, who had been preaching there for some time without regular license and ordination. Some of the people then disclaimed Mr. Boehm's ministerial acts, because he was not ordained, and wished to retain Mr. Weiss as their regular minister.

In July, 1728, the Consistories of the three congregations where Mr. Boehm had been preaching,—Wit Marshen² (Whitemarsh), Schippach (Skippack) and Falkner's Schwam (Swamp),—sent an application to the New York Classis to have Mr. Boehm licensed, ordained and his former pastoral acts approved,—

"The appeal sets forth that Johan Philips Böhm has so borne himself in the discharge of his Godly office, not only in the doctrine of the Reformed Church, but also in his life, that we have not the smallest complaint to make against him in our hearts.

"Our three still small and poor congregations of Falkner's Schwam, Schippach and Wit Marshen, of which the greatest is composed of only twenty-four males, the second about twenty, and the least of not more than fourteen, are spread out more than sixty English miles from each other, and full one hundred and seventy distant from New York.

"Signed by William DeWees, Isaac Dilbeck, George Philip Trotterer, Frederick Antes, Joh. Meyer, Jac. Meyer, Gabriel Schuller, John Berkenbell, Sebastian Reifenyder, Ludwig Knauws, Laurens Bingeman, Joh.

¹Arch. of Penna., vol. vii., 2d series, p. 114. The name of John Philip Boehm is mentioned.

²Whitemarsh, where the Barren Hill Lutheran Church now stands; Skippack, now Wentz's Reformed Church, Worcester; Falkner Swamp, now Swamp Churches, New Hanover township, Montgomery Co., yet a large and flourishing congregation.

Ravenstock, Georg Klauer, Leonhard Sperr, John Stephen Ulrich and John Le Fevre, in behalf of the three congregations, July, 1728."

This appeal was forwarded to the Classis of Amsterdam, in Holland, under whose jurisdiction the American Classis was at the time (and so remained until 1790), and a favorable answer was returned, declaring that all the public acts and ministrations of Mr. Boehm were made valid, dated June 20, 1729.

To this Mr. Weiss assented, and on the 23d of November of that year the Rev. Mr. Boehm was ordained and set apart to the work of the holy ministry by Henricus Boel and Gualterius du Bois, under the oversight of the Consistory of the Low Dutch Church of New York.

The labors of Mr. Boehm were exceedingly exhausting in Eastern Pennsylvania. His labors extended, besides the congregations already named, to Philadelphia, Germantown, Whitpain, Forks of the Delaware, then Bucks County, now Northampton, ministering unto them and laying the foundation for future churches.

The Moravians, headed by Count Zinzendorf, inaugurated a Pietistic movement, and called several Synods, and invited Christians of all denominations to meet with them. In the Reformed Church, Jacob Lischy, John Bechtel, Henry Antes and many others favored the movement. Against this movement Mr. Boehm took a firm stand, and had great concern of mind, and had it not been for the timely arrival of Muhlenberg, who sided with Boehm, the Reformed and Lutheran Churches would have been swallowed up by the movement.

Schlatter, in his journal, says, "Shortly after my arrival in Philadelphia I went to visit Mr. Boehm, one of the oldest ministers of the Reformed Church, and the old man, after he heard of my business, felt very glad and promised to assist me in my labors."

At the organization of the first German Reformed Synod, held in Philadelphia, September 29, 1747, the Rev. John Philip Boehm was present. He was secretary of that body in 1748; a copy of the minutes in his own hand is still extant, and shows that he was an excellent penman.

The exact time when Mr. Boehm located in Whitpain is not known. Among the list of land-holders marked in the survey of the province in 1734 his name is marked as having two hundred acres, and paid a *quit-rent* for the same.

The deed for the property where he resided at the time of his death (near the church bearing his name), is dated September 9, 1736, and contains two hundred acres, and cost £165 13s. 1d.

In Whitpain, Mr. Boehm preached at his own house and other private houses of the neighbors.

On the 29th of January, 1749, the Rev. Boehm, at the request of Mr. Schlatter, took upon himself the duty to attend to the wants of Macungie and Egypt (now Northampton County), with his congregation in Whitpain.

Confining now his labors to a narrower circle, on account of the growing infirmities of old age, he continued zealous for Christ and the church up to the day of his death, at the house of his oldest son, April 29, 1749, having on the previous day administered the Holy Communion to the Egypt congregation, in Northampton County.

He was interred under the altar of the church, in front of the pulpit, of the church bearing his name. The funeral sermon on the occasion was preached by Martin Kolb (Kulp), a Mennonite minister.

On the 7th of May, 1749, Mr. Schlatter, who was absent on a missionary tour when Mr. Boehm's death occurred, improved the occasion and honored his memory with a funeral sermon, delivered in the church at Germantown; and he testifies that his memory is cherished and blessed by many.

Mr. Boehm was a man of ability and bore a strong attachment to the church which he labored so hard and zealously to establish and plant in the then new country. He held extensive correspondence with the church in Europe at an early day, and was careful to preserve all such letters, documents and records as pertained to the business of the church in those primitive days. These he carefully kept in a large iron-bound chest. After his death this chest was moved to Philadelphia and was there lost in the flames.

Mr. Boehm became a heavy land-owner, although he did not set his heart upon it, as has already been stated. At the time of his death he owned five hundred and fifty acres and one hundred and forty-six perches of land, as follows: In Whitpain, two hundred acres (homestead); Saucon, Bucks Co., two hundred acres; Skippack, Philadelphia Co., one hundred and fifty acres, one hundred and forty-six perches.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH is situated on the Skippack turnpike, about one mile above the village of Centre Square. It stands upon an elevated spot overlooking the surrounding country in every direction, and is built of stone surmounted by a belfry.

The deed for the property, containing one acre, was given on the 26th of June, 1773, by George Kastner and wife to Philip Bower and George Berkheimer, of Whitpain; Michael Henkey, George Gosinger, Adam Fleck, and Peter Young (of Gwynedd), and George Heyberger (of Worcester), building committee. After the church was finished, on the 28th of June, 1773, the building committee conveyed the building and grounds to Abm. Dannehower (of Gwynedd), Michael Hufacre, Jacob Carr and Philip Shenaberger (of Whitpain), and Leonard Berkheimer, and Philip Hoffman (of Worcester), trustees of the congregation.

The first positive evidence we have of a church here is in 1769, when the Rev. John Frederick Schmidt, having accepted a call to the charge of the church at Germantown, preached here every alternate Sunday.

The first edifice was erected about the year 1771 and stood until 1838, when the present one was erected.

The Rev. Mr. Schmidt served as pastor from 1769 to 1786. When the British took possession of Philadelphia the Rev. Mr. Schmidt, on account of his well-known republican sentiments, deemed it most prudent to retire to New Goshenhoppen, where he remained until the royal army evacuated the city. Whilst Washington had his headquarters in Worcester the building was used by the Americans for a hospital. Many of the soldiers of the Revolution, who died from wounds or sickness after the battle of Germantown are buried here, without any stone to mark their final resting-place.

A handsome marble stone marks the grave of Christian Moser, who died December 22, 1838, aged eighty-four years. He personally shared in the sanguinary conflicts of Paoli, and at the taking of Stony Point and the battle of Germantown.

The Rev. Anthony Hecht was the second minister in charge, 1786 to 1792, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Jacob Van Buskirk until 1796, who also had charge of Puff's, Upper Dublin, and the Yellow Church, Gwynedd.

There was a vacancy in the pastorate for a short time, which was supplied by the Rev. Messrs. Shaffer, of Germantown.

Rev. Henry Geisenheimer came about 1797. The Rev. Charles Wildbahn was the next pastor. Shortly after Mr. Wildbahn took charge death removed him, and his remains lie in the graveyard. In 1806 the Rev. J. C. Rebenach assumed the charge. In 1810 the Rev. John Wiand took his place and stayed until 1826, when the Rev. George Heilig took charge and continued until 1843. He was succeeded by the Rev. Jacob Medart until 1855. The Rev. John W. Hassler was the next pastor until about 1864; the Rev. Rightmyer until 1868. The Rev. E. L. Reed preached his introductory sermon June 28, 1868, and resigned June 27, 1869. Rev. H. M. Bickel was elected pastor February 20, 1870, and resigned July 11, 1875. Rev. L. D. Coleman was installed December 12, 1875, and resigned February 20, 1881. Rev. H. B. Strodach was elected pastor October 24, 1881, and preached his farewell sermon July 1, 1883. Rev. L. D. Coleman was again elected pastor January 7, 1884.

From its first organization until 1870 the congregation stood in connection with the Gwynedd or North Wales congregation and constituted a charge.

In the graveyard in the rear of the church, upon the tombstones the most common are the following names: Osborne, Dannehower, Fetzner, Berkheimer, Zearfoss, Werkheiser, Hurst, Hallman, Gouldey, Layman, Dotts, Hoffman, Preston, Choyce, Longacre, Deal, Hoeffcker, Kibblehouse, Lightcap, Castner, Moser, Miller, Knipe, Lutz, Bisbing, Cowden, Zeiber, Hunsberger, Markley, Fleck and Fulmer.

The whole inclosure is well shaded with trees and is surrounded with a good and substantial fence. The

congregation owns a good and comfortable house for the sexton and fine shedding for horses, and has expended for repairs and buildings since 1880, \$1583.69.

The present officers are: Elders, Henry Moser, Victor H. Baker; Deacons, Jacob Denner, Samuel C. Seiple, M.D.; Trustees, Jacob Beidiman, Josiah M. Beyer and William Gray.

About the year 1840 a Sunday school was first organized, and is regularly kept open during the summer season, and now, in 1883, numbers one hundred scholars.

Whole number of communicant members, one hundred and twenty.

UNION METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH is situated near the centre of the township, on a public road leading from the Skippack turnpike to the Jolly road.

The deed conveying the land was given September 4, 1813, by James Buck and Elizabeth, his wife, to Abm. Supplee, Samuel Supplee and Nathan Supplee (of the township of Worcester), John Giffin (of Gwynedd), David Supplee (of Norriton), Isaac Zimmerman and Jacob Zimmerman (of Whitpain), Samuel Harvey and Samuel Ashmead (of Germantown), and contained one hundred and twenty-one perches.

The above-named trustees were nearly all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church or in sympathy with the same.

The next year a stone meeting-house was built. The date-stone says, "Union Meeting-House, built in 1814." The pastors of the Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church preach here every two weeks. The intent of having a Union meeting-house here was to accommodate ministers of all Christian denominations when not in use by the Methodists.

During the excitement, and at the time the division among Friends took place, Edward Hicks frequently preached within its walls; and to this day Friends frequently hold appointed meetings here.

The names most common on the tombstones found in the yard are those of Zimmerman, Supplee, Brown, Smith, Fitzgerald, Kibblehouse, Shaeff, Roberts and Beck.

During the summer and latter part of 1882, the building was entirely remodeled, and the present neat structure finished at a cost of one thousand dollars, which was chiefly borne by a few persons; the entire membership at present does not exceed twelve persons.

The church was rededicated December 10, 1882; the sermon on the occasion was preached by Rev. G. McLaughlin; text, Rev. xxii. 5.

The present trustees are George F. Shaeff, Charles De Prefontaine and Thomas Stockdale.

A Sunday-school is now regularly kept open during the summer season, with Charles De Prefontaine as superintendent.

MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH is situated on a high and beautiful location on the Morris road in the eastern portion of the township. The deed for

the property was given by Thomas C. James, of the city of Philadelphia, Doctor of Medicine, and Hannah, his wife, to Philip Matthias, Benjamin Mattis and Jacob Conrad, all of Montgomery County, and is dated 3d of Seventh Month 1834, and contains three-fourths of an acre.

The same year a stone building was erected, not of large dimensions, but repaired and assuming its present appearance in 1865; surrounding is a small graveyard, beautifully laid out, and shedding erected for several horses.

The most common names in the graveyard, are Coleman, Matthias, McClay, Bartleson, Rynear, Jones, Conrad, Speery, Gregar, Pontzler, Davis and Caldwell.

The first organization of the congregation took place May 24, 1834, with sixteen members. The Church Council consisted of Revs. Joseph Kennard, Levi Beck, David Trite and Jacob Coleman. The congregation now numbers about one hundred and twelve.

The Pastors have been Rev. Levi G. Beck, the founder; Rev. R. F. Young of Chestnut Hill. The stay of Mr. Young, embraced three years, and was succeeded on the 20th of September, 1837, by Rev. Thomas S. Griffith, whose pastorate lasted nearly five years. Rev. John S. Eisenburg was ordained March 17, 1842. Rev. John S. Baker succeeded him July 1, 1843, in which year Charles Matthias and Jacob Conrad were elected deacons, and still fill that position with much credit to themselves and acceptance to the church. Baker's term expired in May, 1848. Rev. John S. Christine became his successor. A vacancy of two years occurred. In 1850 the church was supplied by the venerable Rev. Joseph Matthias, of Hilltown, Bucks Co. On the 8th day of September, 1852, the Rev. Uriah Cauffman became pastor; his stay was short. In March, 1853, the Rev. Joseph Sagebeer took charge. In August, 1856, Rev. Thomas C. Trotter became pastor, and remained until 1860. In 1865, Mr. Trotter again took charge and stayed until 1870. In 1860 the Rev. W. B. Toland became pastor and remained during the war of Rebellion. In 1870, on the 1st day of October, the Rev. Chas. T. Hallowell, a student from the Crozer Theological Seminary, at Chester, took charge and remained until 1875. He was succeeded by Rev. C. T. Frame, who remained until 1879. The Rev. Joseph Sagebeer is the present pastor.

Jacob Conrad and wife, Ann, of the original founders, are still living, 1884. "In December, 1823, the Rev. John S. Jenkins, of the Baptist Church, Lower Providence, preached the first sermon ever delivered by a Baptist minister in that neighborhood. Nine years later Mr. Jenkins, in company with the Revs. T. Robinson and Horatio Gates Jones, held meetings for two days near the present locality of the church, and four persons were afterwards baptized." The Wissahickon Creek is the usual place for baptism.

In 1868 the annual meeting of the North Philadel-

phia Baptist Association was held with the church at this place.

Private Burying-Grounds.—The first and probably the oldest is on the farm of Wm. Funk, along the Skippack turnpike, near the bridge over Oil Mill Run. At one time, tradition says, there were fifty or more graves visible here.

There is one large stone (made of soapstone) yet standing, and containing the following inscription: "Here lyeth y^e body of Ann, late wife of Thomas McCarty, who departed this life March 21, y^e year of our Lord 1714-15, aged 57." On the back of the stone the following quaint inscription is contained:

"Although my body lies in earth,
I wish my friends both joy and mirth,
Their interest prize
To live with Christ, we all shall rise;
For as the Scripture text declares
That we shall rise; and if not heirs,
Then woe be to that mortal man
That in God's judgment cannot stand."

On the farm now owned by Tyson Wentz, on the road leading from the Skippack turnpike to the Morris road, the remains of a burying-ground are yet visible. Two graves are marked with head-stones, with the following inscriptions: "Barbara Kress, died January, 1757, aged 62 years;" "Charles Kress, died November 10, 1766, aged 72 years."

Tradition says that it was originally intended to erect Boehm's church on this spot.

Villages.—CENTRE SQUARE is situated at the intersection of the State of Swedes' Ford road with the Skippack turnpike.

Nicholas Scull on his map mentions an inn here in 1758, called the "Waggon." On the maps prepared by the British during the Revolution in the campaign of 1777, it is marked and called by that name. In 1762, Thomas Fitzwater is marked in the number of taxables as inn-keeper here.

The first post-office in the township was established here in 1828, and James Bush appointed postmaster. The distance from Washington is one hundred and fifty-three miles; Harrisburg one hundred and six miles. It is still kept here, and Mr. Rouff is postmaster.

In the past few years the village has rapidly improved, and now contains one inn, two stores, post-office, wheelwright and blacksmith, tin, baker, and shoemaker-shops and forty private dwellings. The walks are laid with boards.

A store was first started here about 1800 by Thomas Humphrey.

For many years an extensive lumber-yard was carried on here by Thomas H. Wentz, who afterwards became a heavy dealer in lumber and a builder in Norristown.

The general elections and the township business has been transacted here since 1867.

The Centre Square Creamery started in 1880 is here located, and does a flourishing business.

Centre Square Lodge, I. O. of O. F., has a large hall

with two dwellings underneath, and hold their regular meetings on Saturday evenings.

At a large meeting of the citizens of the county, held here October 8, 1806, it was agreed to locate the present site for the Montgomery County Almshouse.

The Centre Square Association of Montgomery County for the recovery of stolen horses and the detection of thieves, was first organized at the public-house of Samuel Wentz, Centre Square December 11, 1819.

The permanent organization took place at the public house of Abrm. Wentz on the 23d following, when twenty seven persons signed the constitution, as follows: Joseph Butler, Daniel Wentz, Jonathan Paul, Samuel Wentz, Jonathan Ellis, Edward Foulke, Cadwalader Roberts, Abrm. Wentz, William E. Davis, William Ellis, Jr., Evan Jones, John Holt, Jesse Jenkins, Levi Foulke, John Styer, Henry Stern, Morgan Morgan, Jr., Nathan Evans, Thomas Humphrey, Jesse Spencer, David Acuff, Antrim Foulke, George M. Wentz, Isaac Shoemaker, Isaac Ellis, Jacob Styer and Daniel Kneeder.

The first president was Abrm. Wentz, succeeded by Evan Jones in 1822, who held the position twenty years; then John Rex, who held the position for a few years, and was followed by John Styer, Esq., who filled the position until his death.

The annual meetings are held alternately in the townships of Whitpain and Gwynedd, on the second Thursday in November, and no person can be a member who does not reside within seven miles of the point where the Swedes Ford road crosses the line dividing the townships of Whitpain and Gwynedd.

Present officers (1884): President, Algernon S. Jenkins, Esq.; Secretary, William Jenkins; Treasurer, Aaron Styer; Committee on Accounts, Septimus Roberts, Frank Zimmerman, J. W. Bisson and George Castner.

BLUE BELL is situated at the intersection of the old North Wales and Plymouth road and the Skippack turnpike.

The place contains one inn, store, post-office, blacksmith and wheelwright-shop, and nine dwellings; population in 1880, sixty-one

In 1758 there was an inn here called the "White House," and the military maps of the surrounding country, prepared in 1777, call the place by that name.

In the year 1774 there was a large stone house built by James Bartleson on the west side of the Skippack road, and an inn was established here called the "Black Horse," a license was granted at the May Sessions of 1796, and the inn was kept open until about 1826. In this house the terrible Rader tragedy occurred on the morning of June 2, 1877.

For many years the village was known by the name of Pigeontown. The name is supposed to have originated from the large flocks of wild pigeons that frequented that section fifty years ago, and from an old resident, Morgan Morgan, who was a great trapper of pigeons and a famous gunsmith. The name was

changed to that now in use in 1840, and the present post-office established, (Benjamin Hillan, ex-member of the Legislature, appointed postmaster), which is still kept by Charles De Prefontaine. "On the evening of October 22, 1813, Pigeontown was illuminated in honor of General Harrison's capture of Malden," (*Norristown Herald* of that date). In the same paper, dated October 15, 1812, "Samuel Ashmead advertises a house and lot of six acres, a noted store-stand at Pigeontown."

In 1814, there was a volunteer infantry company rendezvoused here, by the name of Pigeontown Guards, commanded by Captain Kneezel.

The Whitpain Library Company, founded December 16, 1817, is kept here. The library contains two-thousand volumes. Original price of shares, four dollars; present, three dollars. The collection contains many valuable and rare books; number of share-holders about fifty.

Present managers, Benjamin P. Wertsner, William H. Slingluff, Jesse Streeper, Charles De Prefontaine, Charles K. Shoemaker, George G. Rossiter and Jones Detwiler.

The Blue Bell Horse Company, for the detection of thieves and the recovery of stolen horses, was first organized here November 23, 1841, with 54 members. Present officers: President, George F. Shaeff; Vice-President, Linford S. Preston; Secretary, Joseph P. Conard; Treasurer, David De Haven; Committee of Accounts, Jacob Hoover, Benjamin P. Wertsner and George G. McNeil. The annual meetings are held alternately at Centre Square; number of members eighty.

The Blue Bell Live-Stock Insurance Company organized September 15, 1855, holds its regular meetings here. Present officers: President, George F. Shaeff; Secretary, Jones Detwiler; Treasurer, Linford S. Preston; Managers, Jacob Hoover, Andrew Hart, Rynear Bradfield, George H. Tippin, George Amberg, Sr., and Henry C. Hoover.

The Blue Bell Benevolent Society was first organized April 15, 1867; number of members 133. Present officers: President, Jacob Hoover; Vice-President, George Shoemaker; Secretary, George G. Rossiter; Treasurer, William H. Slingluff; Trustees, Samuel D. Shearer, Linford S. Preston and Henry F. Conard.

BROAD AXE is situated in the lower part of the township along the Whitemarsh line, at the intersection of the Skippack turnpike and the Upper Dublin and Plymouth turnpike roads.

The village contains one inn, store, post-office, blacksmith and wheelwright-shops and six dwellings. A portion of the village is in the adjoining township.

Reading Howell, on his map of 1792, denotes a tavern here called "Broad Axe." The sign originally contained a broad axe, square and compass.

The post-office was first established here in 1855, with John Cadwallader, postmaster. The office is still kept here, and Jacob G. Dannehower, postmaster.

During the days of horse-racing a running course was here, one-half mile in length, extending from the village to the road leading to Wertsner's Mill. Many an exciting race here took place and was witnessed by large crowds. The ground was finally abandoned for that purpose in 1840.

The Washington Benevolent Society of the township of Whitpain, organized February 12, 1841, holds its regular meetings on the last Saturday evening of each month in the hall of the hotel. Present officers,—President, Francis Schlater; Vice-President, Charles Harner; Secretary, Charles Kehr; Treasurer, George Lower; Trustees, Reuben Ellis, Charles Aimen and Sylvester Jones; Door-Keeper, Anthony Hallman. For a period of thirty-eight years Francis H. Kehr filled the position of secretary.

The society, from its organization until 1881, paid out the sum of \$36,268.42 for relief and \$6565 for funerals, making a total of \$42,833.42.

FRANKLINVILLE is situated near the eastern portion of the township, at the intersection of the Morris and State roads, and contains one inn and seven dwellings.

The fine country-seat, farm and summer residence of William M. Singerly, of the *Philadelphia Record*, is located here. Here is to be seen one of the finest herds of "imported Holstein cattle" in Pennsylvania. In the assessment of 1882 he returned to the assessor sixty head, mostly of that breed, and kept on the farm.

Washington Square is located at the intersection of the township line, dividing the township from Norriton, and Centre square and Norristown turnpike, and contains one inn, wheelwright, blacksmith-shop and five dwellings.

Along the line of the Stony Creek Railroad,¹ which passes the entire width of the northern portion of the township, are the villages of Caster and Belfry. The former is located in the extreme western part, near the line of the townships of Norriton and Worcester, and contains a steam mill for grinding grain, coal-yard and several fine dwellings.

Belfry is located at the Worcester line, dividing that township from Whitpain and the Skippack road. A flour, feed, coal and lumber-yard, kept by Theodore Harrar, blacksmith shop and several houses, constitute the village. There is a post-office here; making the third in the district.

Schools and Education.—The first school-house in the township was located near the centre, along the Skippack road, where the road leading to the Union meeting-house intersects, and was taught by one William Knox about the year 1766.

Philip Dotterra and his wife, Jannegan, by their deed, dated April 16, 1760, sold sixty-one and a half perches of land for five shillings, situated at the junction of the North Wales road and the Pennlyn turn-

pike, to Philip Wentz, John Martin, Frederick Dull and Jacob Cobler for a school-house. A stone structure was shortly afterwards erected thereon. This was for a parochial school, as it was the custom of the early Germans, as soon as the church building was completed, to provide a school-house and teacher. The school was kept open to all that chose to comply with the regulations. The above-named persons were members and officers of Boehm's Church. The property now belongs to the congregation, and a house for the sexton occupies the old spot. Nicholas Korn-doffer taught the school in 1777.

Centre School is now located near the original spot of the first school, and was erected in 1800.

Ellis' school-house is located in the forks of the Swedes' Ford road and the Centre Square and Norristown turnpike road, and was first built on ground deeded September 10, 1787, by Isaac Ellis, Andrew Knox and wife, Isabella, containing six and one-half perches, for the sum of six shillings. The persons to whom the deed was given resided in the townships of Whitpain, Norriton and Plymouth, and the sum of forty-seven pounds was raised towards building a house, which was built the same season.

Sandy Hill school is situated at the Six Points, and was first built on ground deeded by Joseph Lukens and wife, Mary, in 1796, to trustees, members of Plymouth Meeting and Society of Friends. The supporters resided in the townships of Whitpain, Plymouth and Whitemarsh, and it was kept open to all that wished to send there.

The teacher was always employed by the trustees. In 1837 there were 40 males and 28 females from the district; from other districts, 29 males and 5 females, making a total of 106 scholars, all taught by one teacher, Benjamin Conrad.

Centre Square School was first erected on grounds purchased from Henry Groff and wife, Elizabeth, November 1, 1825, by Rev. George Wack and Henry Hurst, trustees appointed by the district.

There are at present six school-houses in the district; the last two, Franklinville and Shady Grove, have been located and built since the adoption of the school law.

The enactment of the school law, of 1834, raised a storm of opposition, especially among the Germans or their descendants. This was, however, not because they were opposed to education, but because it was "something new." To the credit of the township, be it recorded, that although there was strenuous opposition, it chose to adopt the common school system from the first, and never faltered in its support.

The school law first went into operation May 26, 1836; length of term, six months. On May 2, 1837, a vote was taken on the continuation of the system, and was continued by a vote of 70 in favor and 59 against.

The last election on the subject was held March 19, 1841, when eighty-nine votes were given in favor of its continuation and fifty-five against.

¹The Stony Creek Railroad was built, commencing in 1871, and opened January 1, 1874.

This virtually ended the opposition to free schools. They have been regularly kept open, varying in term from six to ten months; and to its credit there have been female teachers employed since 1841—forty-three years.

Prior to the adoption of the school law, the usual branches taught were spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic. Some few scholars studied grammar, mensuration and surveying. The books in general use were Comly's Primer and Spelling-Book; introduction, English Reader; sequel, Columbian Orator, Scott's Lessons and the American Speaker. The three last were considered high branches. Arithmetics: American Tutor (by Zachariah Jess), Pike's and Rose's. Geographies: Adams', Olney's and Smith's. These were generally used for reading-books, and the questions asked by the master (teacher).

The early school-houses were all built of stone. The desks were placed around against the walls, and the pupils occupying them sat facing the windows. Benches without backs, for the smaller scholars, occupied the middle of the room.

A desk for the teacher, a huge wood-stove in the middle of the room, a bucket, tin-cup, splint-broom, and what was called a "pass," a small paddle, having the words "In and Out" written in opposite sides, constituted the furniture of the room.

During the time of wood-stoves, it was customary for the larger boys at noon to cut the wood and carry the same in the house and place it around under the desks for use.

The larger girls took their turns in keeping the room clean.

The law for the education of poor children was passed April 4, 1809. By that act the assessors were required to take the census of all children between the ages of five and twelve years whose parents were unable to pay for their schooling.

In 1830 the assessor returned eighteen children from the district to be supported by the county.

The first teachers and their salaries in 1836.—Centre School, Dr. Pile, teacher, \$20 per month; Ellis School, George Roney, teacher, \$20 per month; Sandy Hill School, Benjamin Conray, teacher, \$20 per month; Centre Square School, T. G. Bates, teacher, \$20 per month; Franklinville School, Samuel Arnold, teacher, \$20 per month; Mount Pleasant School, Joseph Roney, teacher, \$20 per month.

Teachers and their salaries in 1833.—Centre School, Lizzie Hallowell, teacher, \$38 per month; Ellis School, Lillian Rynick, teacher, \$30 per month; Sandy Hill School, Annie Whitcomb, teacher, \$30 per month; Centre Square School, Reuben Beyer, teacher, \$38 per month; Franklinville School, Kate Hallman, teacher, \$38 per month; Mount Pleasant School (now Shady Grove), Maria Taggert, teacher, \$38 per month.

Whole number of scholars in the district in 1836, 294; whole number of scholars in the district in 1833,

216. Whole amount of cost for tuition and repairs in 1836, \$1203.09; whole amount of cost for tuition and repairs in 1833, \$1949.41.

Directors in 1836.—Charles Greger, Jacob Fisher, Peter C. Evans (secretary), John Styer, John Rile (president), John Heist, Abraham Wentz (treasurer, appointed outside of the board).

Directors in 1833.—Henry Hobensack (president), Jones Detwiler (secretary), Albert Katz (treasurer), Joseph C. Beyer, Samuel D. Shearer, Reuben Rodebaugh.

Roads.—The main roads that pass through the township are the Skippack, Morris, State or Swedes' Ford, and the road leading from North Wales Meeting-house to Plymouth.

The Skippack road, the most important highway in the township, was opened at an early date, concerning the inception of which we happen to have documentary evidence which is transferred to these pages. Before the year 1713, settlers had begun to occupy the country along the Skippack Creek, then known as Bebbert's township or tract; that it began to be felt necessary to have a central public highway leading to the northwest that would answer better than the crooked, winding paths through the woods and in places over almost impassable swamps. Accordingly, a petition was drawn up and presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions, held in Philadelphia, June 2, 1713.

"To the Court of Quarter Sessions held, in Philadelphia, June 2, 1713:

"The petition of the inhabitants of the townships of Skippack and several adjacent plantations in said county, humbly sheweth, that whereas, in the aforesaid township and neighbourhood thereof, pretty many families are already settled, and probably not a few more to settle in and about the same, And yet no road being laid out and established to accommodate your petitioners; but what paths have hitherto used are only upon sufferance, and liable to be fenced up. Therefore, your petitioners, both for the public good and their own convenience, humbly desire an order for the laying out and establishing a road or cartway from the upper end of said township down to the wide-marsh, or Farmer's mill, which will greatly tend to the satisfaction of your petitioners, who shall thankfully acknowledge the favor, etc."

"Signed by Dick Rosenberry, Henry Frey, Jacob Kolb, Claus Jansen, Peter Bon, Henrich Pannebecker, Thomas Kentworthy, Johonas Sholl, Peter Bellar, John Newberry, Peter Wentz, Abraham Le Fevre, William Renberry, John Krey, Andrew Shrager, Johonas Umstat, Hermanus Kuster, Heinrich Kolb, Daniel Dismant, Jacob Gaetshlack, Lorentz Sweetzer, Mathias Tyson, Gerhard In Hoven, Gerhard Clemmens, James Been, Johonas Kolb, Martin Kolb, Jacob op den Grueff, Herman In Hoven."

The following is the report of the jury to lay out said road:

"Whereas, by virtue of an order of Court obtained by the Petition of the Inhabitants of Skippack for the laying out of a road from the said Skippack to Edward Farmer's mill, and the same being laid out, dissatisfaction to some of the Inhabitants of Farmer's township, application being made to the next succeeding Court for a review of the road, and persons being appointed, namely, Henry Sellen, James Shadeck, Robert Jones, John Rody, Edward Farmer, and Nicholas Scull, or any four of them, and they having reviewed the said Road, as Likewise a Certain Northeast line extending from the said Farmer's Mill up into the country, dividing Divers parcels of land, as by the platform hereunto annexed May more plainly appear, we do find the said line to be a more Direct and better Road with the variations therein laid down, and considerably and less injurious to the Inhabitants, greatly to the satisfaction of the

petitioners and the Inhabitants in general, as witness our hands this twenty-sixth day of February, Anno Domini, 1713-14."

(Signed by)

"HENDRICH SELLEN.

"ROBERT JONES.

"JOHN ROADY.

"EDWARD FARMER.

"NICHOLAS SCULL."

The following are the courses and distances :

"That this is a true return of the road from Skippack Creek, in Bebbertownship, by Edward Farmer's mill, unto North Wales road : bearing in course from the Skippack Creek 380 perches, varying from southeast seven degrees easterly ; thence due southeast 2829 perches, except two small variations."

(Signed)

"MATTHEW ZIMMERMAN."

The following remonstrance was presented to the court :

"Whereas, this Honorable Court has lately granted a Road from Skippack to Edward Farmer's Mill, and the same having been viewed and laid out, We find it to be very much to our Prejudices and hurt, And whereas your Petitioners have already three allowed Roads through the township, and your Petitioners being generally poor, and have but small tracts of land, the said Road last granted Cuts four of these said small tracts, to the great prejudices of the owners, and laid out through four very bad swamps, not passable without bridges ; therefore your Petitioners humbly pray that there may be a second review, and we doubt not but we can lay them out a Road far more convenient and straighter, and your Petitioners shall in duty bound pray."

(Signed)

"ABRAHAM DAWS.

"J. NICHOLAS SLEEGLEETZ.

"CASPER STAHL.

"NICHOLAS SCULL.

"and thirteen others."

On the northeast side of this road, on the draft, are marked the lands of Edward Farmer, William Taylor, Joseph Knight, Abm. Daws, Richard Whitpain and Basely Cox, passing through Worcester township, which is named "New Bristol." On the southwest side, beginning in the same order, are Casper Stahl, Robert Ashton, John Palmer, Mary Dane, Jonas Smyth and Basely Cox.

The bridge on the road over the Wissahickon Creek, near Farmer's Mill, was built about the year 1796.

The bridge over Oil-Mill Run, near the Broad Axe, was built in 1804, and cost \$1054.15.

The Skippack Creek at the road-crossing was bridged in 1826.

The Zachariah Creek at Stong's Mill, in Worcester township, was bridged in 1848.

An attempt was made in the year 1844 to turnpike the road, and a charter was obtained March 1, 1845. It was to commence at its junction with the Chestnut Hill and Spring House turnpike road, in Whitemarsh, and running through Skippackville to where the Skippack road intersects the Swamp road in Perkiomen township. John Jones, John Rex, Abm. Wentz, Sr., Joseph M. Mather, Morris Longstreth, Jacob G. Sorber, Cornelius Tyson, Henry Bergstresser, Jesse Gable, Charles Hendricks and Abraham Hydreck, were named the commissioners in the act, and the price of shares was fixed at fifty dollars.

This attempt failed, and the subject was again renewed, and another charter obtained dated March 13, 1853, the capital stock to consist of two hundred shares at twenty-five dollars.

William Michener, Charles Stout, John Hobensack, Frederick B. Robeson, David De Haven, George Scheetz, Philip S. Gerhard, John Fitzgerald, Sr. Francis Kehr, John Jones, Matthias Farringer, John F. Styre, Lawrence Lawrence, Levi Miller, Enos Hoxworth, Samuel F. Shaeff, Henry Dickinson, Samuel Streeper, J. L. Rex, Joseph P. Conrad, Abram Wentz Sr., and Jacob Hoover were the commissioners named in the act, with power to construct a turnpike road, commencing at the Chestnut Hill and Spring House turnpike in Whitemarsh, passing through the villages of Broad Axe, Blue Bell and Centre Square. A supplement to the charter was procured, and extended the distance to St. John's Lutheran Church. Work was soon commenced and the entire distance was turnpiked. The first officers were the following : President, Joseph P. Conard ; Secretary, Frederick Robeson ; Treasurer, John Hobensack ; Managers, Charles Stout, William Michener, Jacob Hoover and Francis Kehr. The old Swedes' Ford road was laid out in 1730. By an act of the Legislature, passed April 6, 1830, William Stokes, Merrick Reeder, of Bucks County, Joel K. Mann, Henry Scheetz, of Montgomery County, Dr. William Darlington and David Dickey, of Chester County, were appointed commissioners to straighten and widen the road from a point on the Delaware River, in Bucks County, through the above-named counties, and from that time the road has been called the State road. A turnpike road is constructed on portion of the same from Centre Square to Norristown.

The Morris road was first laid out according to the order of the court held in Philadelphia, September, 1741, to commence at Morris Mill (now, 1883, Conard's auger works), in Whitemarsh township, to Garret Clemmens' mill, in Upper Salford township.

The old road leading from North Wales Friends' Meeting-house to Friends' Meeting, Plymouth, was laid out at a very early date, probably before 1710, as Friends had settled both localities, but its course in the township has been considerably changed.

The rest of the roads have all been laid out since the formation of the county.

There are four turnpikes in and around the township, viz. : Skippack, Centre Square and Norristown, Blue Bell and Pennlyn, and Plymouth and Upper Dublin, along the southeast portion.

By the act of March, 1762,¹ the townships of Whitpain and Plymouth were formed into a district ; each township was to elect one supervisor, and they were to act jointly in levying the taxes and mending the roads. With this act the inhabitants became dissatisfied, and after the year 1763 the township became a separate district.

In the year 1762¹ the whole amount of duplicate

¹ "Whereas, John Roberts being chosen Supervisor in the township of Whitpain by the direction of an Act of Assembly of this Province in March, 1762, and Barnabas Coulston, in the township of Plymouth, the said townships being made in one district by said act, and to act in conjunction in all expenses on public roads and highways in said district,



J. W. H. M. Singlet

assessed for road purposes was £15 19s. 3d; whole amount paid for labor on roads, £9 1s. 9d.; cash paid John Roberts, supervisor, for commissions, 16s.; cash paid ditto for "assessing and drawing the duplicate and getting the same rectified before two justices of the peace, &c.," 5s. The wages paid at that time were 3s. 6d. per day.

Taverns and Public-Houses.—There has always been a good supply of public-houses in the township. Nicholas Scull, on his map of 1758, mentions two,—the "White Horse" and "Waggon." In 1749, John Bouton is marked as an inn-keeper.

In the list of taxables, of 1762, Abraham Wentz is marked as inn-keeper, and one hundred and fifty acres of land; Derrick Vanpelt, ditto, twenty-five acres; Thomas Fitzwater, ditto, and forty acres.

At the August Sessions of 1797, Barbara Rynear, John Wentz, Leonard Styer, James Bartleson and Nicholas Swoyer were licensed to keep public-houses.

In 1808, Joseph Haws, Thomas Humphrey, Joseph Prichard, John Yetter, Valentine Bush, Jesse Fitzgerald and Jonathan Phillips kept licensed houses, and were as follows: Bush's or "White Horse," Centre square, Wentz, Pigeontown (Blue Bell), "Black Horse," ditto, and Broad Axe. These were all located along the Skippack road, within the distance of four and a half miles. Of this number, Bush's "Big Brick" and Wentz's have been abandoned.

Wentz's, having the "Rising Sun" for a sign, was built in 1764. The house is still standing, and in good condition, being built with heavy brick walls, two stories in height, with heavy plaster cornice on all four sides. In the days of wagon travel this was the chief stopping-place for the heavy teams and was called the wheat market. The millers from the lower mills would meet the farmers here and purchase their grain.

The general elections were held here from 1831 to 1867, when the house was closed to the public. For one hundred and three years this same building was known as a public-house.

On the 4th of October, 1788, the county meeting for the nomination of a county ticket to be supported at the general election was held at the public-house of John Wentz.

Francis Swaine, high-sheriff of Montgomery County, advertises for sale, in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, on

The said townships being nearly equal burthend with roades, and the inhabitants of each township near as equal in number and ability to maintain the said roades, doth rather chuse to act separately, and for the better confirmation the said John Roberts, of Whitpain, doth hereby discharge and acquit the said Barnabas Coulston, of Plymouth, of all and every charge and expense of what kind soever of all roades in the Township of Whitpain."

"Signed by order of the Inhabitants of Whitpain, March ye 19, 1763, John Roberts, Charles Jolly, Abraham Wentz, Jacob Levering, Jacob Roberts, John Lewis, Andrew Knox, Thomas Adams, Philip Richardson, Philip Shenenberger, Joshua Dickinson, Benjamin Dickinson, William Davis, Jonathan Taylor, Joseph Conrod, John Dehaven, Joseph Roberts, Joshua Richards, Jonas Supplee, George Robinson, William Robinson, Owen Thomas and William Dehaven.

Monday, February 23, 1789 at the public-house of John Wentz, a tract of land containing fifty acres, the property of Peter Bisbing.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

WILLIAM M. SINGERLY.

The establishment, by William M. Singerly, of a country home in Whitpain, at Franklinville, Gwynedd Station, on the North Penn Railroad, was an important event for the people of the township and the county, for it ultimately led to the development of what is probably the most extensive and elaborate high-grade stock-farm in the country, which, as a kind of informal agricultural academy, has exerted a marked influence upon the advancement of farming and stock interests in the region round about. It has, as an educational institution, taught many practical object-lessons.

The way in which it came to pass that a young business man, city-born and city-bred, became the owner and manager of a great farm and herds of cattle and sheep, and gained an intimate knowledge of agricultural methods and scientific systems of feeding and caring for animals, was this: In 1872, his health and strength having become slightly impaired by close and constant application to weighty business matters, and by the varied and unceasing demands always made upon the time and consideration of a man of affairs, he was urged by his father to seek the recuperation which a summer home in the country would afford. Thus counseled, he bought a little farm of sixty-eight acres, to which, in the summer of 1873, he removed. From this little beginning, made with no other thought or object than we have indicated, grew, by occasional additions, the "Record farms" of six hundred acres, which, in their improved condition, with the immense buildings upon them and the stock which they support, represent an investment of about a quarter of a million dollars. The land, which had been somewhat impoverished, was, by careful fertilizing processes, brought into a high degree of richness, a careful plan of drainage was carried out and the utmost pains taken to produce the most desirable crops in greatest possible quantity and best quality. Mr. Singerly's latent natural taste for the healthful freedom of outdoor life, and his love for the nobler domestic animals, were both quickened, and with the energy which has characterized him in other extensive enterprises, and the organizing ability which has made them successful, he entered ambitiously upon the difficult but absorbing task of perfecting the best stock-farm in the State. No effort or expense was spared which tended toward the realization of his ideal in this direction.

Some idea of the extent of Mr. Singerly's stock

farming enterprise may be conveyed by the statement that in February, 1885, he had about one hundred and sixty thoroughbred Holstein yearlings, constituting undoubtedly the finest private herd in the country, and he does not propose selling until he has three hundred, which number will far exceed in size any high grade herd upon this side of the Atlantic, and, perhaps, in the world. He has two hundred cows, heifers and calves, all thorough or high-breds; about one hundred and thirty fattening steers, and eight hundred and fifty sheep. Of the latter he is a very large pen-feeder, and one year wintered over twelve hundred. His sheep are mostly high grade Cotswolds, but he has some South-downs for the purpose of insuring plumpness as well as large size in the spring lambs. In the spring of 1882 he sold in New York, for export, four hundred and forty-three, which averaged one hundred and sixty-six pounds each, and were probably the finest lot of sheep ever sold in the United States.

Mr. Singerly is a strong advocate of the system of "soiling" or stall-feeding cattle, and the practice is followed at the "Record farms" on a large scale with the result of proving its great superiority over pasturing in economy of food and production of milk. In one stable, in what has come to be known throughout the Southern part of the county as "Singerly's big barn," are to be seen a hundred handsome Holstein cows, all comfortably stalled, and with pure running water before them.

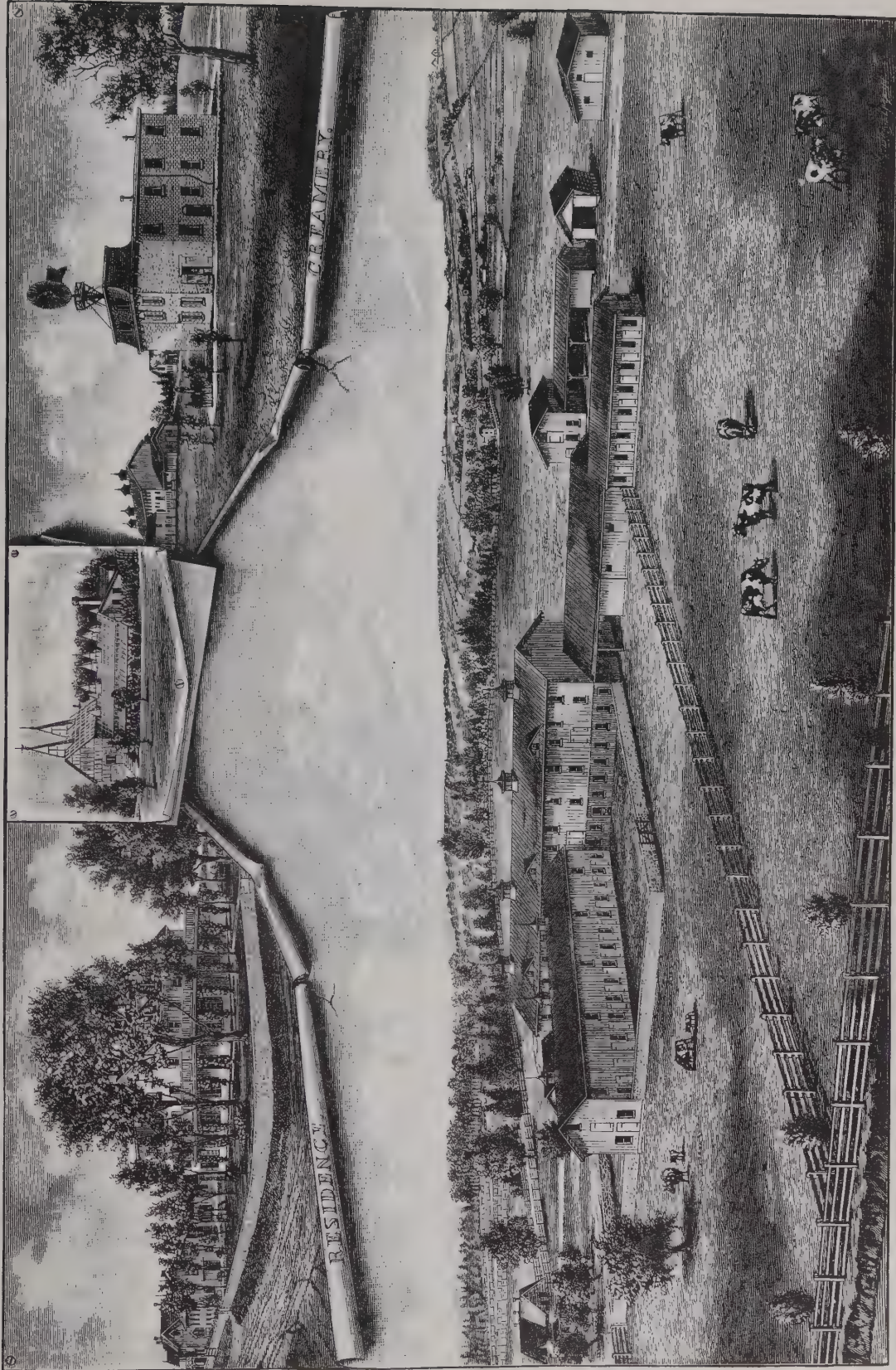
Always fond of a fine horse, Mr. Singerly's regard for the noblest of our dumb friends has increased considerably, as he has become from year to year more interested in his farm and in out-door life. The horses in use at the farm are fine specimens of their kind, but it is in Kentucky that he is interested in steeds of a finer strain of blood and higher spirits. He has ten selected mares, every one of which has shown him portions of a mile at a two-thirty gait. It may be mentioned as indicative of his success in breeding trotting stock, that a colt Ben Van, (foaled by his road mare, Rena C. and sired by Red Wilkes), sold recently for one of the largest prices on record, and was pronounced the choicest yearling of Kentucky.

The breeding of stock on such an extensive scale as that followed at the "Record Farms," of course, renders necessary commodious buildings provided with all of the conveniences known to the most advanced students of farming. The main barn is two hundred and fourteen feet in length by forty-four in width, and two stories in height. The first story is built of brick, resting upon a substantial stone foundation, and the second story is frame. Other structures, extending from either side of the barn proper, increase the line of buildings nearly four hundred feet, while from the centre of the main building a wing, thirty feet in width, extends one hundred and fifty feet forward, dividing the yard into equal portions. The

great barn presents a pleasant appearance in detail and as a whole. A writer, in describing it in a local paper, says: "It is certainly about as near perfection as the present state of advancement of agricultural, mechanical and architectural science, coupled with abundance of means, will admit of. It is . . . the model barn of the country, and, in point of capacity, stands, it is said, second to none in the United States." Other buildings are clustered about the large structure, which has been briefly described, or located elsewhere about the grounds, as Mr. Singerly and his superintendent, Mr. Jason Sexton, have thought best. The system of soiling cattle and feeding ensilage, inaugurated in this portion of the country by the proprietor of this farm, made requisite a very large silo, one sufficient to hold three hundred tons of ensilage, an amount which will keep the entire herd of cattle for six months. There is an extensive creamery, in which golden butter is made from the rich milk of the Holstein cows; an engine-house, in which lies the motive-power that is made to serve various purposes; a blacksmith shop, where the horses of the farm are shod and tools repaired, and dwellings for various employees, all well adapted to the uses for which designed.

The colossal farming enterprise which identifies Mr. Singerly with Montgomery County will not only prove, as years go by, a great benefit to the people of this region in the way of giving innumerable suggestions, but will produce good results throughout the country wherever stock-raising is carried on and improved methods of farming are appreciated.

Concerning the other enterprises of the proprietor of the farm, it is scarcely within our province to speak in detail, for they belong more properly to the Philadelphia field of his activity than to that of Montgomery County. As the son of the late Joseph Singerly he enjoyed the advantages of inheriting business ability and receiving a business training. He graduated from the City High School in 1850, immediately entered mercantile life, and after ten years passed amidst commercial surroundings he was called to the management of the Germantown Passenger Railway, in which his father was a large stockholder. His ministration was sagacious and successful. Toward the close of his father's life he had absolute control of the road, a position involving great responsibility; and upon his death, in 1878, came into possession of its stock, valued at \$750,000, which he afterwards disposed of for twice that amount. On the 1st of May, 1877, Mr. Singerly secured control of the *Philadelphia Record*, and in 1881-82 erected the superb building on Chestnut Street, from which that journal is now sent broadcast through town and country, and which is a monument to its remarkable success. Neither journalism nor stock-farming have, however, claimed all of his time or talent. One of the largest of his recent undertakings has been the building of several hundred dwelling-houses upon a



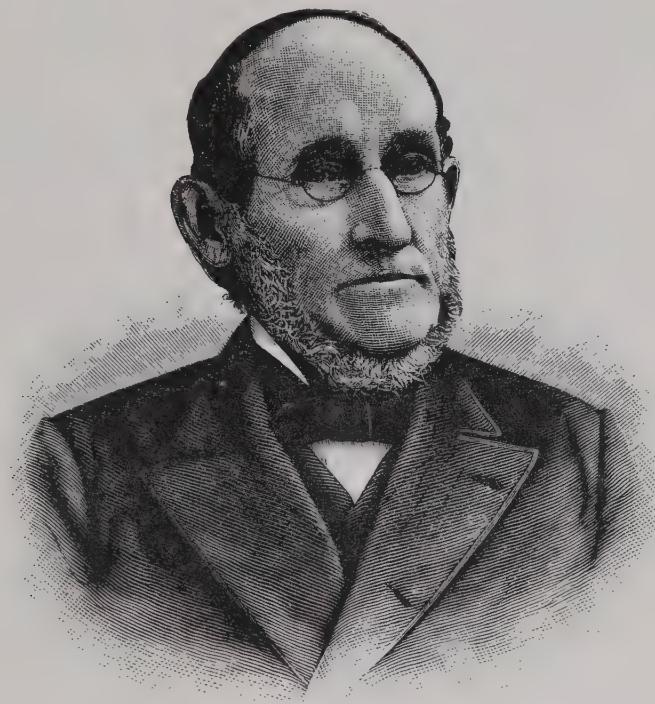
HOME FARM.
WILLIAM M. SINGERLY,
GWYNEDD PA.

tract of land in Philadelphia, between Seventeenth Street and Islington Lane and Diamond and York Streets. This, probably the largest building operation ever attempted by any one person in the city, for the erection of more than a thousand houses is contemplated, has in it a large element of practical philanthropy and is one of several actions which entitle Mr. Singerly to be called a public benefactor. Another way in which his business sagacity and money have been determinedly and effectively devoted to the benefit of the public has been in the breaking down of the exorbitant price of coal. He has succeeded in placing it in the market at seventy-

benefit to the "Record Farms" and as worthy of their projector and the promotion of Philadelphia's welfare.

MATHIAS SHOEMAKER.

Mathias Shoemaker, now of the city of Philadelphia, is a native of Whitpain township, Montgomery County, where he was a resident for many years. His great-grandfather was Jacob Shoemaker, one of the early settlers of Philadelphia County, who was the father of eight children, viz.: Mathias, born December 14, 1736, died January 17, 1816; Barbara, born June 30, 1738; Jonathan, born December 16, 1739; Isaac, born November 16, 1741; Hannah, born Sep-



Mathias Shoemaker

five cents per ton less than the rate which railroad discrimination has dictated,—a measure which it would surprise nobody should he characteristically so push it as to save Philadelphia a half-million dollars annually and thus greatly enhance its manufacturing interests and at the same time aid the poor.

As Mr. Singerly is scarcely beyond the meridian of life (having been born December 27, 1832), it is within the realm of the probable that he will not only carry forward to successful completion all of the various enterprises he has auspiciously begun in city and country, but that his activity will find exercise in the inauguration of new ones, fully equal in scope and

tember 10, 1743; Elizabeth, born November 30, 1745; Sarah, born February 3, 1748; David, born January 30, 1753. The eldest of these children, Mathias Shoemaker, and his wife, Hannah (grandparents of the present Mathias), had five daughters,—Agnes, Margaret, Dorothy, Rachel and Mary, and one son, Thomas. In 1777 Mathias Shoemaker, the elder, purchased the farm in Whitpain township, which afterwards became the property of his only son, Thomas, and is now owned and occupied by Charles K., son of Thomas and brother of Mathias Shoemaker, the subject of this memoir.

Mathias Shoemaker, one of the seven sons of

Thomas and Jane (Supplee) Shoemaker, was born on the homestead farm of his father in Whitpain, February 17, 1810. Through the years of his youth his life was passed like that of other farmers' sons of his time, doing the boy's work on the farm and studying in the common schools during the short winter terms. His education was obtained in the "Cross Roads School-house" in Whitpain, and at the "Supplee School-house" on the Swedes' Ford road, in Norriton township. In the fall of 1826, when he was a little more than sixteen years of age, he was apprenticed to Samuel Cowden to learn the blacksmith's trade. Cowden's shop was at the "Broad Axe Tavern," on the township line of Whitpain and Whitemarsh. He served four years in his apprenticeship, which closed in the fall of 1830, a few months before he was twenty-one years of age. During those few months he again attended the "Cross Roads School" (then taught by Benjamin Conrad) until the spring of 1831, when he went to Philadelphia, and engaged as a journeyman in the shop of Franklin W. Coggins, on Queen Street above Second, where he remained more than three years. In the fall of 1834 he went to Chestnut Hill, where he worked in the employ of Andrew Fisher. In 1835 he returned to the family homestead in Whitpain, where he commenced business for himself, and worked about four years in a shop which his father built for his use. At that place he commenced the business of making elliptic springs for wagons and other vehicles. The first pair of springs which he made were for John Slingluff, of Whitpain, and they were also the first springs of that kind ever manufactured or used in Montgomery County.

In 1839 (being then married) Mr. Shoemaker removed to the vicinity of the "Cross Roads School-house," where he had purchased a house and about eight acres of land, on which he built a shop. Afterwards he added twenty-four acres by purchase from the estate of Christopher Mathias. At that place he remained engaged in the work of his trade and in farming for more than ten years. In 1850 he moved to Philadelphia, and there worked at journey work for about eight months, after which time, for about one year, he carried on business in a shop which had been built for him by John Conrad. He then bought a shop of Samuel Wooley, on Hutchinson Street above Master, where he recommenced the business of spring-making, living in a house which he had bought, located on Master Street. At his commencement of business on Hutchinson Street he employed three hands, but as his business grew he increased the number, so that at one time during the war of the Rebellion he employed twenty-five hands. After the war he put in machinery driven by steam-power, which enabled him to reduce his force of hands. He continued to manufacture springs at his shops on Hutchinson Street for about nineteen years. In 1870 he moved from this city to Abington township, Montgomery County, but still continued to carry on the

business in Philadelphia until 1871, when he sold it out to a company. From Abington he removed to Cheltenham township, where he purchased a residence and lot of ground, and lived there till 1874, when he moved to his present residence in Mount Vernon Street, Philadelphia.

Mr. Shoemaker was married, February 23, 1837, to Sarah M. Fisher, daughter of Andrew Fisher, of Chestnut Hill. She died October 14, 1883. Their only surviving child, an unmarried daughter, lives with her father in Philadelphia. Mr. Shoemaker is a Republican, but has never held or sought public office. In his youth he, with his father and other members of his family, affiliated with the Friends, but he was never a member of the Society until 1865, when he joined the Green Street Meeting. He is now a member of the Meeting at Fifteenth and Race Streets, Philadelphia.

CHARLES K. SHOEMAKER.

Charles K. Shoemaker is the great-grandson of Jacob Shoemaker, one of the pioneers of Eastern Pennsylvania, who was the father of children as follows: Mathias, grandfather of Charles K., born December 14, 1736, died April 17, 1816; Barbara, born June 30, 1738; Jonathan, born December 16, 1739; Isaac, born November 16, 1741; Hannah, born September 10, 1743; Elizabeth, born November 30, 1745; Sarah, born February 3, 1748; and David, born January 30, 1753.

Of these children, Mattis (or Mathias), the eldest, purchased, March 28, 1777, from John Yedder, forty-seven acres of land, upon which his grandson, Charles K., now resides, in the township of Whitpain. April 30, 1796, he added to his original tract, thirty-three acres, purchased from Henry Conard and wife, the whole forming the original Shoemaker farm in this township. Upon his demise, Mathias left the farm to be divided equally between his children. By an amicable arrangement between the heirs, the farm came into possession of Thomas, the only son.

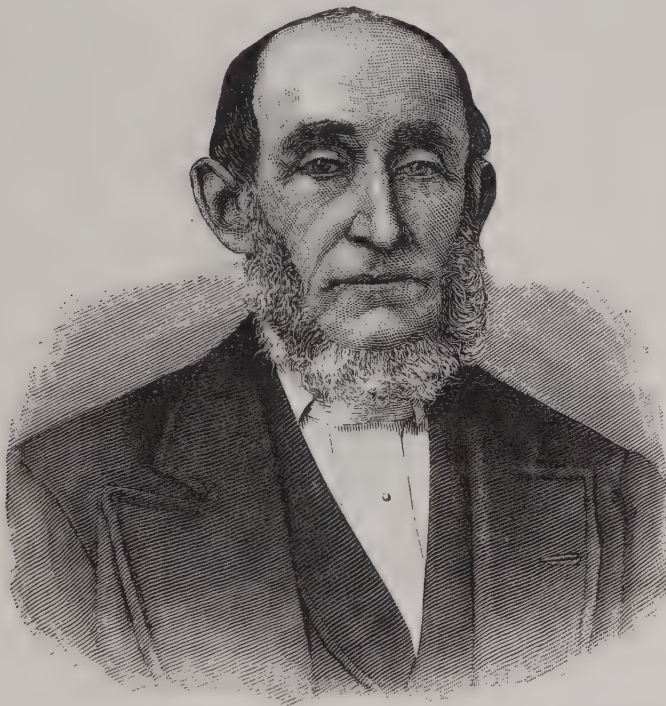
The children of Thomas were Enoch, born September 25, 1804; Job, born October 7, 1805, died August 14, 1828; David, born January 6, 1807; Alan, born September 22, 1808; Mathias, born February 10, 1810; Hannah, born January 3, 1813, died April 10, 1817; Jesse, born March 31, 1815, died June 28, 1854; and Charles K., born June 4, 1819, on the farm, and in the house where he now lives, where also his father, Thomas Shoemaker, was born.

In 1857, Charles K., purchased from the heirs the old homestead, and although involving himself in a large bonded debt, with little or no capital beyond good health and a strong determination to succeed in life, he has, by honest industry and frugal habits, relieved himself from all financial obligations, reared a large and highly respected family, and amassed a sufficiency of this world's goods, so that in his declining years he has been enabled to retire from the active

duties of life, having transferred the responsibility and care of the old homestead upon his son Jesse. Mr. Shoemaker was married, March 4, 1841, to Miss Sarah, daughter of Peter and Sarah Childs, of Whitemarsh township, Montgomery Co., Pa. Mrs. Shoemaker was born December 2, 1818, and is still in possession of all her faculties, and in the performance of the active duties of the household.

The children of Charles K. and Sarah Shoemaker, are Phebe G., born March 1, 1842, married, in 1866, to Charles C. McCann, of Whitpain township; Matthias, born August 9, 1843. At the first call of President Lincoln for troops, in April, 1861, to defend the

Libby Prison, from which place he was transferred to that hell of the Southern chivalry, commonly dignified by the title of "Andersonville Guard House," or prison. There he was literally starved, and in June, 1865, died the death of a noble martyr. George, born February 20, 1846, married, in June, 1864, to Harriet Henshall, of Norristown, Pa.; Emma Jane, born August 28, 1848; infant daughter, born October 16, 1850, died same day; Albert, born September 6, 1851, married in November, 1875, Miss Ray R. DeHaven, of Whitpain township; Jesse, born September 6, 1854, married, January 1, 1880, Miss Annie C. Smith, of Norriton Township; Sally C., born



Charles K. Shoemaker

life of the nation against the assaults of the southern slaveocracy, young Shoemaker volunteered his services, and at the end of his term of enlistment returned to the paternal roof, where he remained until the dark cloud of the slaveholders' war covered the land, when he once more offered himself as a living sacrifice upon the altar of his country, enlisting August, 1862, in Company H, Thirteenth Regiment, Pennsylvania Cavalry, where, by his strict obedience and soldierly-bearing, he passed through the several gradations, to the honorable position of second-lieutenant. While on picket duty in September, 1863, he was captured by the enemy, and consigned to

January 19, 1857, married, in October, 1877, Harry C. Hoover, of Whitpain township; Charles T., born November, 10, 1859, died December 8, 1876; Anna C., born March 29, 1864.

Phebe G. McCann, daughter of Charles K. Shoemaker, is the mother of children as follows: Mary L., born April 29, 1867; William, born November 3, 1868; Sallie S., born November 11, 1871; Charles S., born February 1, 1874; Anne, born July 18, 1876.

George Shoemaker is the father of George M., born March 17, 1865, died July 6, 1865; Sarah P., born August 20, 1866, died November 9, 1872; Charles H., born July 9, 1870; Fannie M., born June 26, 1873, died

August 18, 1873; Ella M., born October 28, 1879, died October 13, 1884.

Albert Shoemaker's children are Irene D., born October 13, 1876; Lida May, born April 23, 1880.

Jesse Shoemaker's children are C. Harvey, born January 13, 1881; Katie Vaughan, born July 19, 1882; Gertrude M., born January 5, 1884.

Sallie C. Hoover, daughter of Charles K. Shoemaker, is the mother of children,—Elsie C., born October 15, 1879; Emma S., born April 11, 1881.

The children of Mathias and Hannah Shoemaker (grandparents of Charles K.), were Agnes, born 23d Ninth Month, 1765, died June 29, 1851; Margaret,

paternal great-grandfather of the present Abram, was the pioneer of the family of that name in Whitpain township, and came to be one of the prominent and progressive men of his time. Under the old militia laws of the State, John, above named, was commissioned colonel of a regiment, and was ever after known as "Colonel Wentz." His ancestors were either German or of German descent, but when they came to America is not known. Colonel Wentz owned the farm now occupied by Abram, and in the latter part of the last century built the house in which his grandson, Abram, now lives. Colonel John Wentz was not only a military officer, but a civil officer as well.



Abram Wentz

born First Month 9, 1767, died November 10, 1816; Dorothy, born 25th Seventh Month, 1769, died in August 1777; Thomas (father of Charles K.), born Eighth Month 1, 1771, died January 26, 1853. He was married, December 1, 1803, to Jane Supplee, who died July 6, 1857; Rachael, born Twelfth Month 13, 1773, died January 20, 1855; Mary, born Seventh Month 19, 1776, died in August, 1777; Hannah, wife of Mathias Shoemaker, and mother of the above named children, died in October, 1777.

ABRAM WENTZ.

Colonel John Wentz, son of Abram Wentz, the

He was for many years a justice of the peace, and was as popular in that capacity as in the military. His justice dockets were neatly and accurately kept, and might properly be used as a model for like officers at the present day. It was customary in those days for justices of the peace to do their share in the matter of uniting lovers in bonds of holy wedlock, and the colonel was as popular in that line as in the other two. His side-board was never empty, and no newly married couple ever left his house without being refreshed with the best of wine, and that in abundance. It is one of the misfortunes that we sometimes labor under, that neither the date of the birth or

death of so good and great a man as he was cannot be given.

His son, Abram, inherited the farm, and added to it the farm on the opposite side of the road, where his son Abram Wentz now lives. He, like his illustrious father, was a man of sterling worth, respected by all who knew him. He was one of those unobtrusive men, always attending strictly to the affairs pertaining to the duties of the farm, allowing others to look after township and outside affairs. He died in September, 1870, at the ripe old age of eighty-four years; Charlotte, wife of Abram Wentz, died December, 1881, in her ninety-third year. His children were Joseph Tyson (who owns forty acres of the old homestead and in whose house he died), Hannah (died in infancy), Mary (deceased), Elizabeth, Barbara, John (deceased), Abram (who owns the fifty acres formerly owned by his father, Abram, and grandfather, John Wentz) and Henry (deceased). It is proper to state here that the property upon which the present Abram now resides has been in possession of the Wentz family for about one hundred and twenty-five years.

Abram Wentz was born in the house now occupied by his brother, J. Tyson, on the opposite side of the turnpike, where, and upon his own farm, his life, thus far, has been spent. He has quietly and honorably followed in the footsteps of his father, seeking not the plaudits of men, nor places of public trust or political preferment; yet his townsmen discovered in him the qualities best suited to fill a position where honesty is requisite to a just balancing of accounts, and for many years have kept him in the board of township auditors. He has also been honored with a seat in the board of directors of the Montgomery National Bank, at Norristown.

He was married, April 30, 1868, to Miss Louisa, daughter of Jesse and Parthena Castner, of Gwynedd township. They are the parents of four children, three of whom are deceased. The surviving son, Earl Castner, was born October 27, 1883.

Mrs. Wentz's father, Jesse Castner, died September 9, 1883, in the seventy-second year of his age. Her grandfather, Jesse Castner, was in his ninety-second year when he died, and her great-grandfather, Samuel Castner, died when in his ninety-eighth year. Her mother, Parthena Castner, died May 15, 1881. They were all residents of the township of Gwynedd. Mr. Wentz and wife are members of Behm's Reformed Church, at Blue Bell.

JOSEPH P. CONARD.

Among the hardy pioneers who sought the shores of America, was one Dennis Conard (as the name was anglicized), who came in the ship "Concord," in the year 1683. He was from Saxony, Germany, and upon his arrival settled with the German colony, in Germantown. From him all of the Conards of Whitpain township are descended. The family were Friends,

and when Henry, the youngest son of Dennis, moved to Whitpain township May 16, 1711, he brought with him a letter from the Germantown Friends, signed among others by Francis Daniel Pastorius. This letter is now in the possession of Lewis Conard. Upon his arrival in Whitpain, Henry settled on a tract of two hundred and twenty-three acres, a part of which is now comprised in the property owned by the Strogdale family and by Christian Duffield. The Strogdale farm is a part of the original tract owned by direct descendants of the first owners, making a period of one hundred and seventy-four years in which it has been in the possession of the family.

Upon the decease of Henry, the land comprising these two farms passed to Joseph, his fifth son, being willed to him under date of September, 1758. Joseph had two sons, Joseph and John, and to them the property descended in equal parts.

John Conard, son of Joseph, was born in 1782 and spent the earlier part of his life upon the home farm. Having a taste for mechanics he served an apprenticeship with James Wood, one of the pioneers in the iron business and the first iron-master in Conshohocken.

John intermarried with Sarah Childs, of Abington, who was born in 1786, and in 1805 settled upon the Duffield farm. Here he built the house and barn, which are yet standing, and transformed the then uncultivated tract into one of the most productive farms in the neighborhood. Here he also built a log blacksmith-shop, where he subsequently began the manufacture of the "Conard Screw Auger." This business is now greatly enlarged and improved by the introduction of machinery, and is carried on by two of his sons, Albert and Isaac, at Fort Washington, upon the site of Daub's old oil-mill. John Conard's death occurred in Seventh Month 30, 1853, he having lived to the good old age of seventy-one years and filled well the position of an energetic but quiet and modest life of a useful citizen and a sincere and devout Friend. To John and Sarah Conard were born twelve children,—James, Mary, Peter, Joseph P., Tacy, John R., Albert, Charles, Elizabeth, Lewis, Isaac and Levi R., of whom nine are still living.

Two of the sons merit special mention, on account of their patriotism. James, the oldest, though having passed the age of those subject to military duty, enlisted in Company B, of the First Pennsylvania Cavalry (Forty-fourth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers), and served till sickness caused by exposure necessitated his discharge. Levi R., the youngest son, was a private in the Nineteenth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, and died at Columbia College Hospital, from the effects of a bullet wound received at the second battle of Bull Run. He was buried in the Plymouth Friends' graveyard September 21, 1862. Most nobly was the motto of his regiment, "Non sibi sed Patriæ" exemplified in him.

Joseph P. Conard, fourth child, of John and Sarah

Conard, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, was born Twelfth Month 24, 1812, upon the original Conard tract in Whitpain township. His early life, until he was sixteen years of age, was spent upon the home farm, and he followed the pursuits incident to his method of life. At that age he began to acquire the trade of screw auger making, which he followed till twenty-one years of age, when he purchased the Wentz farm upon the Skippack Road, near Blue Bell. Upon this farm he has lived the period of forty-six years, till 1882, when he sold it to his son, Henry Fasset, and now resides with his daughter, Mary S., wife of Charles Shoemaker, of Whitpain township.

Alice, born 10th of Fifth Month, 1843, married John Walton, of Horsham township.

Elizabeth, born 15th of Third Month, 1847, married Frank Stackhouse, of Upper Dublin township.

Henry Fasset, born 22d of Tenth Month, 1849, married Sarah, daughter of Harper Nice, of Whitmarsh township.

Ellwood, born 25th of Ninth Month, 1852, has a large roller grist-mill, at Kellogg, Jasper Co., Ia., and was married to Ella Burke, of Kellogg, Iowa, formerly of the State of Ohio.

Israel S., born 1st day of Sixth Month, 1856, married to Jane Cline, of Whitmarsh township.



Joseph P. Conard

He has been for many years a prominent farmer and market gardener, supplying the Philadelphia markets. Though now in his seventy-second year he is hale and hearty, and is enjoying, in his declining years, the fruits of an industrious and useful life. He was married in Meeting, Third Month, 1834, to Rebecca A. Shaw, formerly of Richland township, Bucks Co. To them have been born the following children,—Sarah, who died in infancy.

Ann, who was born 13th of Sixth Month, 1837, and married Jacob T. Buckman, of Abington township.

Mary S., born 9th of Twelfth Month, 1840, married Charles Shoemaker, of Springfield township.

Rebecca A. Conard, died 28th of Fourth Month, 1874.

The Conard family are nearly all Friends, and Joseph P., is a birthright member of that Society.

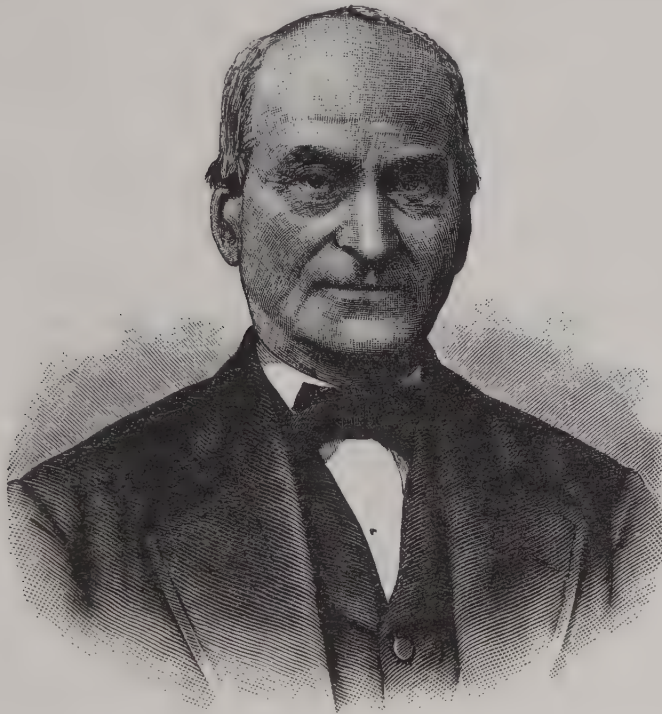
CHARLES KRIEBLE.

Charles Kriebel, who resides near Centre Square, is a descendant and bears the name of an old family of Schwenkfelders. His ancestors upon both sides were early settlers in this region, and his paternal grandfather, Melchior Kriebel, was born in America. His son John married Agnes Yeakle, daughter of the Christopher Yeakle who built the historic house still

standing, at Chestnut Hill, a cut of which appears in this volume.

Charles, the eldest of five children of John and Agnes Krieble, of whom the juniors were Samuel, now a resident of Norristown; Mary (Mrs. Schultz, of Colebrookdale); Susannah (Gerhart), deceased, and Sarah (Anson), of Worcester township, was born in 1814, at Chestnut Hill. Working during his youth upon his father's farm he acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture, which he put to good use when he began for himself, in 1842, upon the farm of eighty-five acres, where he now lives, and which his father

Mr. Krieble was married the year he made his home in Whitpain, February 18th, 1841, to Sarah, daughter of Abraham Anders, of Worcester township, and enjoyed her loving companionship until her death, November 21, 1884. They were the parents of two children,—Hiram A. Krieble, who is a farmer and lives with his father at the old homestead, married Susannah, daughter of Rev. Jacob Meschter, of Upper Hanover. They have had four children, viz.,—Alan (deceased), May, Charles (deceased), and Edna. Mary Ann Krieble is the wife of Dr. George K. Meschter, of Worcester township.



Charles Krieble

assisted him to procure. Ten years after he removed to this spot, one of the evidences of his prosperity appeared in the erection of the substantial house in which he now lives. Other improvements were made from time to time. His life has been a busy one, and the thrift which has followed industry has enabled him not only to enjoy comparative ease during his later years but to help others. He is a liberal sustainer of the Schwenkfelder Churches in Worcester and Towamencin. He has been a friend of the educational and other interests of the community in which he dwells, and has served a number of years as a school director.

ENOS ROBERTS.

Enos Roberts, of Whitpain, is a descendant of the Roberts family of Gwynedd, which figures largely in the history of that township, and whose progenitors were among the earliest Welsh settlers of Montgomery County, coming over the sea soon after William Penn. Sketches of several other representatives of this family, we may remark in this connection, have places in the present volume. The grandfather of our subject, Enos Roberts, was a resident of Gwynedd, and his remains repose with those of many others of his kindred and faith in the burying-ground at the Friends' Meeting in that township. The parents of the gen-

tleman we now have in consideration were Nathan and Barbara (Ruth) Roberts (the latter the offspring of David Ruth). He was born in Gwynedd, November 25, 1856, and was the oldest of three children, the younger of whom were David and Annie (now Mrs. David Wismer, of West Point, Gwynedd township).

Enos was left an orphan by the death of his father when about four years of age, and was brought up by his paternal uncles, John and Edward Roberts, both of whom are now deceased. He was reared to the vocation of a farmer, which he now follows, and on April 1, 1878, bought his present farm of about eighty acres near Blue Bell, which he has brought by judi-

CHAPTER LXXXI.

WORCESTER TOWNSHIP.

IN its location Worcester in the most central township in the county, and is bounded on the north by Towamencin, south by Norriton, east by Gwynedd, southeast by Whitpain, west by Perkiomen and southwest by Lower Providence. Its greatest length is four and a half miles, greatest breadth four and a quarter miles, with an area of 10,180 acres or 1575 square miles. The surface is rolling, the soil red shale and under good cultivation. Methacton Hill is a considerable



Enos Roberts

cious labor into an excellent state of cultivation, and upon which he has a comfortable home. The farm absorbs his attention, and he ranks among the most successful agriculturists of the neighborhood. He is a Republican in politics, but is not a very active worker in the cause of the party, and is not in any sense a seeker for place, being satisfied with such activity as his occupation calls for.

The family, of long descent in Montgomery County, is still farther perpetuated through Enos Roberts, for he is married and the father of three children. Miss Clara E. Ralston, of Philadelphia, became his wife upon May 23, 1878. The offspring of this union are Edith E., Annie V., and Kate A.

elevation, that commences in Lower Providence and extends in a northeast direction across almost the entire southern part of the township for a distance of five miles. The summit of these hills, more familiarly known as the Fairview Hills, is equal in altitude to the highest point of the Chestnut and Cheltenham Hills, in the southeastern portion of the county, or those near Green Lane, to the northward. From points on them the traveler obtains beautiful and extended views of the Schuylkill and Perkiomen Valleys. The forests that once covered these highlands have, during recent years, been cleared away, and the land is well cultivated and improved by thrifty farmers.

It was the commanding prospect afforded by these

hills that enabled General Washington's advance-guard to observe the movement of the British army in moving on Philadelphia in the autumn of 1777, and from which he subsequently moved to attack them at Germantown. Washington broke up his camp at Pennypacker's Mill October 8, 1777, and the army proceeded on its march down the Skippack road and Reading and Ridge turnpikes. On the 16th, Washington established his headquarters at the house of Peter Wentz, near said church, from where he wrote an interesting letter to Congress, in which he says,—

"It is with the highest satisfaction I congratulate Congress on the success of our arms northward in the action of the seventh, an event of the most interesting importance at this critical juncture. From the happy train in which things are now, I hope we shall soon hear of the most decisive advantages. We moved this morning from the encampment at which we had been for six or seven days past, and have just arrived at the grounds we occupied before the action of the 4th. One motive for coming here is to direct the enemy's attention from the forts."

This communication establishes the fact that it was from the encampment at Wentz's church that the army proceeded to make the attack at Germantown. Having retreated to these same hills after their defeat in this battle, they maintained a strong position on them for several days, when they took up their march and proceeded to Whitmarsh township, where they established Camp Hill.

Zacharia Creek is the prominent stream of Worcester township, and has a course of about four miles across its northern angle, in which distance it propels three grist-mills and a saw-mill. In 1758 mention is made of a saw-mill where the Zacharia Creek crosses the Skippack road, near the present Centre Point. It may be possible that the singular name given to this creek has been applied from Zachariah Whitpain, an early resident of the adjoining township. A branch of the Skippack crosses near the western extremity of this township and furnishes power to a grist-mill. Five-Mile Run and Stony Creek have their sources in its southern and eastern parts.

The name of Worcester has been applied from a city and county in England, and is supposed to be derived from the Saxon word *Caester*, signifying a station or camp. It was at the battle of Worcester, in 1650, where Cromwell and his party defeated the Royalists and took eight thousand prisoners, most of whom were sent to America and sold as slaves. According to the list of 1734, this township contained twenty-five taxables and land-holders. Amongst these may be mentioned Robert Jones, James Baine, Lawrence Switzer, Henry Flower, Leonard Spare, Conrad Conrad, John Lefevre, John Baine, Adam Vanfossen, Jacob Engle, Henry Rittenhouse, Stephen Stahr, John Vanderslice, Peter Keyser, Richard Osborn, William Robert Foulke, Conrad Vanfossen, Daniel Chrisman and Anthony Conrad. Derrick Keyser and his son, Peter, were naturalized in 1709 the better to hold and enjoy lands. One bearing the latter name

resided at Germantown before 1700; Conrad Conrad settled at Germantown before 1700. The population in 1800 was 782; in 1830, 1135; in 1850, 1453; in 1870, 1587; in 1880, 1641. Taxables in 1741, 70; in 1828, 249; in 1858, 425; in 1875, 426; in 1884, 478.

For the last twenty-five or thirty years this township has remained almost stationary in population. In 1785 there were within its limits two taverns, two grist-mills, one saw-mill and five slaves. In 1884 the following licenses were granted according to the mercantile appraiser's list: Beyer & Swartley, live-stock; William H. & W. R. Baker, merchandise; Daniel Cassel, merchandise; Daniel Cassel, hardware; S. L. Frank, live-stock; M. J. Harley, merchandise; Krebel & Son, flour and feed; A. B. Schults, live-stock; Joseph Shults, flour and feed; Frank Swartley, live-stock.

In 1884 the value of improved lands was \$1,316,180; value of unimproved lands, \$34,295; value of 378 horses, \$47,975; value of 526 cattle, \$46,500; value of property taxable for county purposes, \$1,493,398.

The Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike road, commonly called the Reading, passes through the western extremity of Worcester about two miles. The Stony Creek Railroad has a course of about a mile near its southeastern angle. The villages are quite small, and are Centre Point, Fairview and Cedar Hill. The post-office at the first-mentioned place is Worcester, and at the second, Fairview Village. The township was formed into a separate election district in 1828, and the township elections are held at Centre Point.

There are eight public schools in Worcester, with three hundred and sixty pupils in attendance. The school term is seven months, and eight teachers (three males and five females) are employed at a salary of forty dollars per month.

Wentz's Reformed Church is situated on the Skippack road, nearly a mile above Centre Point. The congregation existed as early as 1727, but was known as "Skippack Reformed Church," which was then located in Lower Salford township, in the vicinity of the Northwest Branch of the Skippack Creek, on the tract of land known for many years as the farm of Benjamin Reiff. The church was built of strong logs and stood on the border of an oak-grove, on the farm mentioned. Close by, the visitor beholds a small circular rise in the ground, which marks the place once held sacred. It was on that spot where the Rev. George Michael Weiss and other German emigrants from the Palatinate settled down, after they had, on the 21st of September, 1727, subscribed the oath of allegiance, by which they promised to be true to the British crown and the laws of the province of Pennsylvania. The organization of the Skippack congregation, with its consistory, was constituted of the emigrants who accompanied the pastor named, and followed immediately upon their settlement, and the Rev. Mr. Weiss became the first pastor, who also, at a later period, served, in connection with

it, the Falkner Swamp and Old Goshenhoppen congregations. The first officers of the old Skippack Reformed Church were Jacob Deimer, Michael Hillegas, Peter Hillegas, Yost Schmidt, Henry Weller, Jacob Seigel and William Rodrick. How long Mr. Weiss preached to this congregation cannot be definitely determined. It was doubtless, however, until 1746, when we again find him in Old Goshenhoppen after his return from Rheinbach, Dutchess Co., N. Y., from which neighborhood he had to flee on account of Indian troubles. The Rev. Michael Schlatter remarks, in his journal, among other things, in reference to the Skippack Reformed Church, as follows: "This congregation, which was, previous to this time, one of the most respectable, has been so much reduced through the seducing influences of the many various sects that the number remaining are not able to



WENTZ'S REFORMED CHURCH.

collect for the support of a minister more than eight pounds, which is equal to fifty-three Dutch guilders," or twenty-one dollars of the present day. The old log church already named stood from 1757 until 1760, when it was torn down and never rebuilt. About this time the congregation transferred its place of meeting to the spot now occupied by Wentz's church, inasmuch as the majority of those who faithfully adhered to the church resided in that neighborhood. It is said that the logs of the old church building were, at a later period, used in erecting a grist-mill, known as Allebaugh's mill, on the Skippack Creek, where they still at the present day form a part of the walls of the old building. The graveyard of the congregation, located not far from the church, or, more correctly speaking, all traces thereof, with the grave-

stones which were once there, have long since disappeared, and the plow of the busy farmer draws its furrows over the resting-place of the silently-reposing pioneers.

According to recollection, supported by the facts indicated, the assumption is fully correct that Wentz's church is the same organization of the former Skippack congregation, and that the only difference is to be found in the change of the name and place of meeting. It has been asserted that this was the first Reformed Church organized on this new continent.

This statement, however, has been earnestly called into question, and as there cannot be found any direct evidence in regard to this point, no positive claims are set up for this honor. The name Wentz is derived from the well-known families of this name which at that period were quite numerous in this neighborhood; but at the present time there is not one of this name, still held in honor, to be found among the large membership of the congregation. In 1760 a few isolated members of the Skippack Reformed Church held a conference meeting, the object of which was the making of preparations for building a new church. After long deliberation and consultation it was resolved to build a new church on a spot a little in the rear of the one recently torn down, and that on the boundary line between the properties of two members, who had each given an acre of ground for the purpose. According to the records, these members were, on the one part, John Lefevre and Christiana, his wife (the latter's family name is supposed to have been Wentz), and on the other part, Jacob Wentz and his wife, Elizabeth. The original deeds are dated January 2, 1762, and the land is conveyed to Philip Wentz, Peter Wentz, Jacob Weber, Philip Spare, Henry Conard and Jacob Reiff, in trust for the congregation, as a legacy for their descendants and those who may connect themselves with the Spiritual Reformed Zion. At a later period a small piece of ground was added to the original grounds, so that the whole then contained two acres and twenty-seven perches, the strip at the upper end, where the sheds stand, and the acre and a half on which the parsonage is erected not included.

The first church building, after the removal and assumption of the new name, was commenced in 1762, but, on account of repeated pecuniary troubles, was not completed until nine years later (1771). It was painted inside with strong colors, and highly ornamented with a number of inscriptions on the walls, as is still remembered by many of the older persons who frequented the first church on this spot in earlier years. The few highly-colored pieces of wood, found underneath the wood-work of the recently demolished church, and which are remains of the old church, still indicate the remarkable character of the painting. The congregation, at that time poor and numbering only about fifty members, was not able of itself to provide the means required to finish

the church, and hence a subscription-book was sent around, in which the names of neighboring clergymen appear, encouraging contributions, the recommendations being written in German, Low Dutch and Old English. Owing to an extraordinary money-pressure which prevailed at that time, the subscriptions were but small, and the congregation still laboring under a heavy debt, they at length resolved to raise money by means of a lottery, a method by no means uncommon in those days. In this they were successful, for the proceeds furnished not only enough money to pay off the debt, but also left a small balance in the treasury. The first church was an exceedingly strong and durable building, erected of stone, with the joints closely cut and pointed with mortar, and the roof was high and steep, after the old Holland style. The building cost two hundred and fifty pounds, and was dedicated on the 13th of November, 1763.

This building withstood the storms for eighty-nine years, during which time it was served successively by fifteen different pastors, all of whom, except one, have closed their labors and rest peacefully in their graves.

With the removal of the old Skippack Church, and the change of name which followed, all further connection of its former pastor, Rev. G. M. Weiss, with it ceased, and the Rev. John George Alsentz became the first pastor of the recently organized congregation. He continued in charge until his death, a period of seven years. His remains repose in the old cemetery of what was once the Reformed Church of Germantown, Pa. The successor of Alsentz was the Rev. Christian Fohring, who continued in this relation only two years. It was during his ministry that the interior of the church received the peculiar gaudy painting for which it was characteristic until it was torn down. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Gabriel Gebhard, who also remained only two years. During his pastorate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered on Easter Sunday of 1772 to fifty-eight members. In the following year Mr. Gebhard was succeeded by Rev. John W. Ingold, whose connection with the congregation was short. At the opening of the Revolutionary war, in 1776, Rev. John H. Weikel was pastor of the congregation. His connection with the charge, however, did not continue many years. Various difficulties arose, growing out of the war, of such a nature as to lead to his separation from the congregation. At the commencement of the Revolution he preached a sermon from Eccl. iv. 13: "Better is a poor and wise child than an old and foolish king who will no more be admonished." This sermon so excited a great portion of the congregation that the dissatisfaction led at last to his resignation of the charge. Mr. Weikel resided at the time on the parsonage farm owned by the two congregations (Wentz's and Boehm's). He was often seen, after having turned his horse into an inclosure in front of the house, firing pistols over his

head from the windows for the purpose of training him to the fire should his services be needed in the war. His sympathies were warmly with the colonies during the struggle for freedom. The congregation was now vacant for several years. In 1784 the Rev. John Hermann Winkhaus became pastor and continued in this relation until 1787. After a vacancy of three years the church received a pastor in the person of Rev. Philip Pauli. He remained four years and then removed to Reading, Pa. From this time forward the church was for a number of years without any settled pastor, but was served interchangeably by the Rev. Nicholas Pomp and his son, who, in addition to the church at the Trappe, preached to the congregations at Falkner Swamp and Old Goshenhopen. The pastor who next served Wentz's church was the Rev. Dr. S. Helffenstein, who also remained only two years, and then accepted a call from the Race Street Church, Philadelphia, which he served during the following thirty years. His successor at Wentz's church was the Rev. Gabriel Gobrecht. At the end of eighteen months, however, his labors here were also brought to a close. The congregation remained vacant until 1802. A call was then extended to the Rev. George Wack, at that time a young man who had just brought his studies preparatory to the ministry to a close. He accepted the call, and soon thereafter commenced his labors amongst this people. They were attended with marked success, and he added largely to the congregation by baptism and confirmation. His pastorate extended through forty-three years, during which time he baptized seven hundred and five children. In consequence of growing infirmities, he resigned the charge of the congregation in 1845, and retired to private life. He died at the house of his son-in-law, Philip S. Gerhard, near Centre Square, Pa., on the 17th of February, 1856, at the age of seventy-nine years. His remains lie interred in the cemetery attached to Boehm's church. Rev. Abraham Berkey became successor to the Rev. George Wack. He did not succeed, however, in gathering together the members who had become scattered during the last years of the ministry of his predecessor. Hence he resigned at the close of the first year of his pastorate.

On the 21st of February, 1846, the Rev. John Naille became pastor of the congregation. He at first served it only as a supply, as he belonged to the Goshenhopen Classis, and the congregation then was connected with the Philadelphia Classis.

At a later period the congregation was transferred to the Goshenhopen Classis, and along with Keely's and Towamencin congregations constitute what has been since then known as "Wentz's charge of Goshenhopen Classis." Rev. Mr. Naille found his hands full in contending with existing difficulties. However, through the help of the Great Head of the Church, he succeeded in overcoming them in a short time, and as the congregation was now in a flourishing

condition, but were still without a parsonage, steps were taken for the purchase of a lot on which to erect one. The contract for building the house was given to Mr. Naille himself, who handed it over completed to the trustees of the congregation on the 21st of October, 1849. The congregation continued to grow still stronger, so that in 1851 the pastor began to remind them of the necessity for a larger house of worship. The church was, it is true, in a good condition, but it was not by any means convenient, and was, besides, too small for the congregation, and as it also did not meet the taste of the people any longer, the congregation soon gave its consent to the erection of a new church. Within the same year a resolution to that end was unanimously adopted, and preparations being made immediately for the erection of a new church, the corner-stone was laid on the 21st of August, on which occasion the Rev. Dr. Samuel Helfenstein preached in the German and the Rev. Jacob Keller in the English language. The new building was ready for dedication on the 29th of January, 1852, when the same brethren officiated who had participated in the services at the laying of the corner-stone, and were assisted by the Rev. Mr. Medtard, of the Lutheran, and Rev. Reuben Kriebel, of the Schwenkfeldian Church. The new church was a plain one-story building, with a gallery at the end, and with difficulty would seat only three hundred persons. It was soon felt that the house was too small to comfortably accommodate the continually increasing congregation. After Rev. Mr. Naille had served the church eleven years, he resigned charge of it in February, 1857. Notwithstanding his advanced age, Rev. John Naille is still laboring in the vineyard of the Lord, as a minister in the Reformed Church. A vacancy of eleven months followed, at the close of which a call was extended to Rev. William G. Hackman, which he accepted, and commenced his labors in January, 1858. His efforts in the interests of the congregation were from the very first crowned with success. The Sunday-school largely increased, and as there was not room for its accommodation in the old school-house, it was resolved, in the fall of 1858, to build a school-house for its special use. This was erected during the following year and dedicated on the 4th of August. General satisfaction prevailed at this time, and the congregation continued to prosper for some years to come. After a pastorate of eight years Rev. Mr. Hackman resigned and accepted a call in St. Joseph's County, Mich., in which he has continued to labor up to the present time. The people were extremely sorry to see their pastor removed from their midst, and hearty prayers for his welfare accompanied him to his new field of labor. He had succeeded in getting a fast hold upon the affections of the people, and was highly esteemed by the community generally outside of the congregation. After the resignation of the Rev. William G. Hackman, the church succeeded in securing the services of the present pastor, Rev. S.

M. K. Huber, who was at that time serving the Keely's congregation, now a part of the Wentz's charge. He was chosen on the 1st of January, 1867. At this time the membership numbered one hundred and ninety, of whom only one hundred and twenty-seven partook of the Lord's Supper at the first communion held by the new pastor. Success attended his unintermitted labors, and during the first year fifty-two persons were added to the church by confirmation, which number, through his activity, has been increased from year to year until it has reached two hundred and fifty, more than half of its present membership. During the first year of his labors, the great disadvantages resulting from the remoteness of the parsonage from the principal congregation became sensibly manifest both to pastor and people. After considerable deliberation the old parsonage property was sold on the 4th of September, 1869, and active efforts were immediately entered upon to erect a new parsonage upon a lot of ground, containing an acre and a quarter, adjoining the Wentz's church property, which had been purchased from Samuel Schultz. The work was carried forward to a successful completion, so that the pastor took possession of it on the 21st of March, 1870. The good results from the change of the location of the parsonage soon became manifest. The contiguity of the parsonage to the church enabled the pastor to look more carefully after the spiritual interests of his flock, and especially to give his personal attention to the Sunday-school work in his church. So great were the additions to the number of scholars and general prosperity of the school that the room in the school-house soon became inadequate to the wants of the school.

The subject of providing better and more suitable accommodations for the Sunday-school was agitated, and as the church itself was too small for the comfortable accommodation of the membership, and also needed extensive repairs, the Consistory resolved to lay the entire subject before the congregation for its decision. Accordingly, it was almost unanimously resolved that the new church should be built during the summer of 1878. On the 17th of March, 1878, the last communion season in the old church was held. It was a specially interesting and solemn occasion. The demolition of the building was commenced the following Monday, and by the close of the week the third church on this spot was a thing of the past. The corner-stone of the new building was laid on Easter Monday, the 22d of April, and was the same that had been used in the first building erected on this spot, in 1762. The following articles were placed in the box: the Minutes for 1878 of the Synod of the United States, the Synod of the Potomac and of the Pittsburg Synod; German and English almanacs for 1878, monthly *Guardian*, *Reformirte Hausfreund*, constitution of the Reformed Church, English and German hymn-books and catechisms, English Bible, large issue of *The Messenger*, *Christian World*, United States coin to the amount of

\$3.14 of the coinage of 1878, a silver quarter of a dollar found in the old corner-stone, and a half-cent piece found in tearing down the old church. In a temporal point of view the congregation has made remarkable progress during the pastorate of the present pastor, and if the outward may serve as a basis for conclusions in regard to the inward, the necessary inference must be that a corresponding progress has also taken place in the spiritual condition of the membership. The congregation has been remarkably active during late years as regards its property. The greater part of the extensive sheds, for sheltering horses and vehicles, has been built, the dwelling for the sexton of the church has been enlarged and improved, the new parsonage has been built and the church provided with a new organ. At the time the erection of the new church building was entered upon the following were the officers of the congregation: Pastor, Rev. S. M. K. Huber; Elders, James W. Slough, Tobias G. Hange and John Custer; Deacons, William G. Markley, Samuel G. Fenstermaker, Hillary M. Snyder, Henry Slough, Daniel Beyer and George F. Strong; Trustees, Peter S. Fry, S. K. Kriebel and John Deckert; Building Committee, Peter Fry, S. K. Kriebel, John Deckert, Reuben Scheffy, Eli Frick and Henry Slough.

The basement of the new church was dedicated on the first Sunday in September the same year, and the pastor was assisted by the Rev. S. R. Fisher, of Philadelphia, who preached a very impressive sermon on Sunday morning, and in the afternoon addressed the Sunday-school, which was for the first time assembled in its new home. The work on the auditorium was resumed immediately after the basement dedication, and by the 1st of November the new church was completed, and dedicated on the 9th and 10th of November, 1878. The following clergymen took part in the dedicatory services: Rev. Moses Godshalk, of Schwenksville (Mennonite); Rev. Frank J. Mohr, of Quakertown; Rev. C. K. Weiser, D.D., of Pennsylvania; Rev. J. A. Schultz, of Worcester; Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, of Collegeville (these last-named Reformed); Rev. S. Coleman, of Centre Square (Lutheran); Rev. H. Rodenbough, of Eagleville; and Rev. C. Collins, pastor of Centennial Church, Jefferson (Presbyterian).

The burial-grounds are large and well attended to; there are so many families interred here that it would seem invidious to mention but a few, and space forbids to name the many. The Hon. John Weber and wife are buried in these grounds.

The Bethel Methodist Meeting-House is situated on the Skippack road, a little over half a mile above the Whitpain line. The first house of worship was built in 1770 by Johannes Supplee, but for no particular denomination. In 1784 a congregation was regularly organized by the Methodist Episcopal Church, under whose control it has since remained. This was the first congregation organized by this de-

nomination in the county. Joseph Pillmore, a minister from England, had the first charge. The present church was erected in 1845, and the old one torn down a few years afterward. The oldest stone in the graveyard containing an inscription is that of Johannes Supplee, who died in 1770, a short time before the first meeting-house was finished. The most numerous names on tombstones are the Supplees, Zimmermans and Bissons. For further information in regard to this meeting, the reader is referred to the chapter on Methodism in Montgomery County.

A German Baptist, or Dunker, Meeting-House is located at the corner of the township, where it adjoins Lower Providence and Norriton. It is a small one-story building. The principal names on the tombstones are Harley, Cassel, Detweiler, Balser, Goshaw, Rittenhouse, Damuth, Tyson, Dettra, Yost, Bauer, Baker, Garner, Stem, Coulston and Stauffer. The earliest stone observed bearing a date was that of 1809.

Worcester Schwenkfelder Meeting-House is situated on the Township Line road, dividing Norriton from Worcester township, about two miles north of Norritonville. It is a plain stone building, with a seating capacity of from three to four hundred persons. Quite a large congregation worships here. The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of the Schwenkfelders in America was celebrated in this church September 24, 1884.

Among the notable persons present at the anniversary were General John F. Hartranft; Rev. Chester D. Hartranft, D.D., of Hartford, Conn.; Revs. Dr. Rice, of the Moravian Church, Philadelphia; Moses Godshall, of Schwenksville; J. H. Hendricks, of Collegeville; Eli Keller, of Zionville; Charles Wied, of Pottstown; Charles Collins, of the Centennial Presbyterian Church; J. H. A. Bomberger, of Ursinus College; and others.

The morning services were mostly in German. Rev. William S. Anders, the pastor, opened the exercises by announcing the hymn, commencing,—

“Great God of Nations! now to thee
Our hymn of gratitude we raise.”

Rev. Howard W. Kriebel, of Clayton, Berks Co., in the Upper District, delivered a sermon in English, partly historical in its character.

Rev. Jacob Meschter, of Palm Station, also in the Upper District, delivered an able sermon from the text: “Bless the Lord, oh my soul, and forget not all his benefits.”

Rev. Joshua Schultz, of Hereford, Berks Co., also in the Upper District, read a “Sketch of the Development of the Church in this Country.”

The singing of a hymn closed the morning exercises.

A recess was taken for dinner, which was served in the basement of the church, being furnished by the members resident in the neighborhood. Nine hundred persons in all were fed. The dinner consisted of

bread and butter, cold meat and other substantial, cold water being the only beverage.

The event of the afternoon was the able and exhaustive history of the Schwenkfelders and their founder by Rev. Charles D. Hartranft. It was collated partly from manuscripts of Schwenkfeld. The paper treated of the works of Schwenkfeld, his wanderings and those of his people after his death and also of the doctrines he taught. Speaking of the latter, he said,—

"Schwenkfeld taught the need of individual reformation before you can have a reformation of society. The very revolution from Rome had increased the degeneracy of the age. The first great essential in Schwenkfeld's preaching is repentance. No wonder he loved the ancient prophets, and declared there could be no Christian life which did not flow from repentance. A man's Christianity must be seen in his actions and not heard merely from his lips, according to his doctrine. And what a sublime life was his! Whether for strength, courage, gentleness, devotion or loyalty to Christ, I know not his peer. Who faced graver dangers without the shadow of fear? Who disputed more courteously? Where do you find the breath of slander in him? He was a Christian gentleman, who never forgot his manners, nor did he give signs of a too prostrate sensibility. Many and many a reformer acknowledged his benign piety and they could not account for it; his doctrine, they said, was so bad.

"The principles which Schwenkfeld emphasized have made themselves everywhere living forces. In what sphere of Christian activity are they not prominent factors? His doctrines are remarkable for the conspicuous exaltation of the heavenly over the earthly, the living inward word over that which is written. They teach the nourishment of the soul by the presence of Christ himself instead of the hollow observance of sacraments.

"How immeasurably superior do the qualities of Caspar Schwenkfeld shine forth in comparison with his contemporaries! It was but another indication of his possession of the new life. What he preached he first did. He was equipped on every point, and had a masterly eloquence. The press was his greatest pulpit. And yet not half his manuscripts have been published.

"He found his vocation in the graces God had given him. How he lashed the priests in their notions that they were the successors of the apostles! He insisted on social worship. He could not but regard the ecclesiastical machinery of the church, even in the Reformation, as tyranny. His ideas are being practically carried out in the churches around us.

"He believed in liberty of conscience and the right of private judgment, with the Scriptures as a test. Everything was to be brought to this test. He taught individual liberty among believers. How rich are his works in practical arguments against the interference of the State with conscience! He never used the State to advance his own views. How can I represent to you the sorrows of his exile? With his zeal to advance the cause of Christ, to be hunted from village to village! Ah! that we might recall the afflictions of those bands of wanderers! Sons and daughters of those noble sires, let us rise up and call them blessed. Was the seed, which Schwenkfeld planted, without fruit? Behold! to-day its fair fruits wave from every branch of Protestant Christianity. Let the children of such sires love Christ as they loved him, and we need not fear for the future of the American Republic."

Christopher Heydrick, of Franklin, Venango Co., followed and read an account of the causes which led to the exodus, commencing with 1724. To prevent it the Schwenkfelders were forbidden to sell their property. They had sought the intervention of the States-General of Holland and of the sovereign of Great Britain. On July 30, 1725, the Schwenkfelders were handed over to the Jesuit missionaries by an edict of the Emperor, after having been two hundred years in Silesia.

They loved their German Fatherland, but they craved only to be allowed to sell their goods and leave

the country. They addressed the Mennonites of Holland to intercede for them with their government, where liberty of conscience was allowed. The crisis had now come and they resolved upon flight.

Mr. Heydrick explained the reason of their coming to Pennsylvania, which was the similarity of their belief to that of Friends and the unexampled liberality of the offers made by Penn. They arrived here September 24, 1734, and at once set up the altar of their religion.

He dwelt upon the history of the sect since they came to this country, and closed with the words,—

"Such were the distinctive institutions of the early American Schwenkfelders—the church, according to what the church should be, has its charities and schools. From these institutions planted by our fathers in the free soil of Pennsylvania and maintained by their prayers and sacrifices, have, under the divine favor, flowed blessings which we cannot over estimate. They have reached us who are here assembled at the end of one hundred and fifty years, in obedience to the injunction of our godly ancestors, to commemorate their deliverance from their persecutors; they have reached us whether we have remained in the fold, or from accident or choice, cast our lot with other communions; and by whatever name we may be called, we can to-day unite together in thanksgiving and praise for them unto him from whom all blessings flow."

General John F. Hartranft prepared a paper for this occasion, and in his remarks said,—

"The Schwenkfelders have never surrendered, never compromised their religious liberty. They unwittingly became instruments with other sects, the Huguenots, the Puritans and others, in building up the civil government and establishing the civil liberty we enjoy. They established the grandest republic on earth."

Rev. Charles Collins offered the closing prayer.

Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D.D., made a brief address, expressing the satisfaction he had experienced in joining on so glorious an occasion.

The exercises then closed by singing the doxology.

An Evangelical German Methodist Church built about 1850, is on the road from Fairview to Centre Point. It is a one-story stone building, with a seating-capacity of one hundred and fifty persons.

The Methacton Mennonite Meeting-House.—This meeting-house is located on a public road leading from the Germantown turnpike to the Skippack road, about one-half mile northwest of Fairview village. It is a plain, one-story stone structure, and was early founded by the denomination worshipping there. There is a large burial-ground connected with it, and some of the oldest settlers of the locality and many of their descendants are buried there. It was a well-attended place of worship as early as 1812, and many interments were there made prior to that date. Prominent among the names noticed on the tombstones may be mentioned the following: Drake, Rittenhouse, Wismer, Detwiler, Longacre, Gallagher, Landes, Funk, Baughman, Styer, Conard, Roosen, Freed, Fenstermacher, Beyer (1744), Beard, Wagner (1760), Yeakel (1768), Gearhart, Zimmerman, Clouard, Schrack, Casselberry, Stem, Sower, Steiger, Custer, Vanfossen, Heebner, Reiff, Bean, Clemmens, Cassel, Heyser, Wanner, Sechlar, Schwartz.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

DAVID CUSTER.

The family of David Custer, of Worcester township, is both upon his side and his wife's, a very old one in the county of Montgomery. The great-grandfather of the citizen whose name forms the caption of the present brief article was Jacob Custer,—or, as the name was originally spelled, Kister,—a native of Holland, who was among the earliest settlers of that nationality to locate in Pennsylvania, and with the

delphia of ye first part and Adam Van Veson . . . of ye second part.

In the early part of the last century Jacob Custer built the old house which still stands upon this farm fronting a by-road leading from the Reading turnpike. Here he lived and died. The stone over his grave in the burying-ground at the old Mennonite Church in Skippack shows that his death took place December 4, 1804, and that he was in the seventy-third year of his age. He and his wife Elizabeth Van Veson were the parents of Jacob, the father of our subject. He was born upon the farm in 1778 and died December 4, 1854, aged seventy-six years.



David Custer

Van Vosons took up a large quantity of land in Skippack and Worcester, extending from the farm now owned by David Custer to Skippack Creek.

His son, Jacob, owned the farm on which David now resides, which was originally a portion of the large property acquired at an early day by his father-in-law, Adam Van Veson. An old parchment in the possession of Mr. Custer, recites that the "indenture was made the eighteenth day of May, in the sixth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, George, King of Great Britain," etc., A. D. 1720, . . . "between Thomas Shute of ye county of Philadelphia, and James Steel of ye city of Phila-

His wife was Mary, daughter of David Gouldy, who owned the David Rittenhouse farm. Jacob's religious affiliation was with the Mennonites, while his wife was a member of the Lutheran Church, and they brought up their children to revere those great principles of Christianity which are the precious property alike of the two sects or denominations, and of many others. They were the parents of three sons and five daughters, all of whom save one are now living. Samuel, the first-born, died without issue; Charlotte (Tyson), is a resident of the county; Rebecca (Heiser), lives in Skippack; Jacob, in Lower Providence; Mary (Davis), in Philadelphia; Elizabeth (Getty), in the county;

David, upon the homestead farm and Barbara (Detwiler), in Lower Providence.

David Custer was born April 21, 1820, and served upon the farm, gaining under his father's directions an accurate and practical knowledge of the vocation which he has successfully followed. Of school advantages he enjoyed but few, and the deficiency of his early education had therefore to be supplied through the later and slower, but perhaps better, processes of general reading, of observation and of mingling with men. After his marriage he carried on his father's farm on shares, and inherited it in part upon his death in 1854. By his skillful management of these one hundred and twenty-eight acres he was enabled, not only to bring up his family under conditions far superior to those which had governed his own early life and to contribute liberally to the needs of others, and advance the interests of good institution, but to secure a second farm of one hundred and forty-six acres. Mention of this property, located in Norriton township, not far from the Schuylkill River, suggests an incident which is fairly illustrative of one of Mr. Custer's energy and activity. In the autumn of 1884 the barn upon the Norriton farm caught fire and was quickly consumed, with all of its contents, causing a very considerable loss. Mr. Custer went immediately to work to replace the burned building, and in less than six weeks a handsome and commodious structure seventy-four by fifty-two feet—a combination of stone and frame—was completed, greatly to the surprise of his friends and neighbors. It is this faculty for quiet, quick organization and execution which has been one of the largest factors in his success. A substantial and hospitable appearing home was erected upon the Worcester farm a few years since. Mr. Custer holds a high place in the regard and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is a Republican in politics, but has never been an aspirant for place within the gift of the party or people, and his interest in public affairs being entirely unselfish, is only such as it is the duty of every man to take in them. His religious predilections long since led him into membership with the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church, of which he has been a consistent adherent and supporter, for nine years subsequent to 1860 a trustee, and since the close of his service in that office until the present, an elder.

In 1872 Mr. Custer was united in marriage with Margaret, daughter of Christian and Catharine (Heebner) Detwiler, who was born January 26, 1829. Her father was from Perkiomen township and her mother from Norriton. The latter was the daughter of Abram and Catharine (Rittenhouse) Heebner, who were the descendants of very early Montgomery settlers of the Schwenkfelder faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Custer are the parents of five children, all now living,—Christian, who married Susannah, daughter of Ephraim Boorse; Jacob, married Belle, daughter of Samuel Lewis; and Urias, married Annie,

daughter of George Hallman. He is of the fourth generation of the family who have lived on the homestead farm. David graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, in 1884, and is a promising physician at Manayunk. The youngest of the family, Mary, resides with her parents.

ANDREW MORGAN.

Andrew Morgan, the well-known farmer and tanner of Worcester, is of Welsh descent and a representative of the fourth generation of the family in Montgomery County. His great-grandfather, William Morgan, a native of Wales and one of the earliest settlers of his nationality in this country or region, located, on his arrival here, in Hatfield township, between the Hatfield road and what is now the Bethel turnpike. His grandparents were Andrew and Rebecca (Levering) Morgan, and his father, Daniel Morgan. Their eldest son¹ was born February 6, 1770. He married Jane Wigton, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Wigton, of Bucks County. They made their home in Lower Providence township, and it was there that their seven children, five of whom grew to maturity, were born. Their names and dates of birth were as follows: Samuel, born July 10, 1803, (died in infancy); Rebecca, born August 2, 1805; Mary, born October 14, 1808, (died in infancy); Theodore, born November 26, 1811, (died March 20, 1870); Andrew, born September 28, 1814; Elizabeth W., born April 2, 1817, (died October 20, 1883); and Mary Jane, born December 26, 1818.

Rebecca was married February 24, 1824, to John Casselberry, one of the sons of William Casselberry, of Lower Providence township, Montgomery County, Pa., and he died September 4, 1834, leaving issue, four children, as follows: D. Morgan, D. Hearn, Melville L. and Catharine J. D. Morgan Casselberry was born April 3, 1825, and was married March 25, 1852, to Ann Eliza, daughter of John and Susanna Heebner, of the same township, and have eight children living, as follows: John H., M. Alice, Ann Rebecca, C. Wigton, Catharine J., Theodore M., Hannah Amelia, Leonora Russel, with two who died in infancy. The eldest, John H., married Clara, daughter of Emanuel and Kate Gouldy, who have two children living, Flora and Arthur. Ann Rebecca was married to D. M. Y. Weber, of the same township, and have two children, J. Stroud and Morgan C. D. Hearn Casselberry was born April 27, 1827, and was married in 1854 to Ann Elizabeth, daughter of Henry and Sebor Loucks, of the same township; said Ann Elizabeth died February 11, 1857, and left two children, who both died in infancy. Dr. M. L. Casselberry was

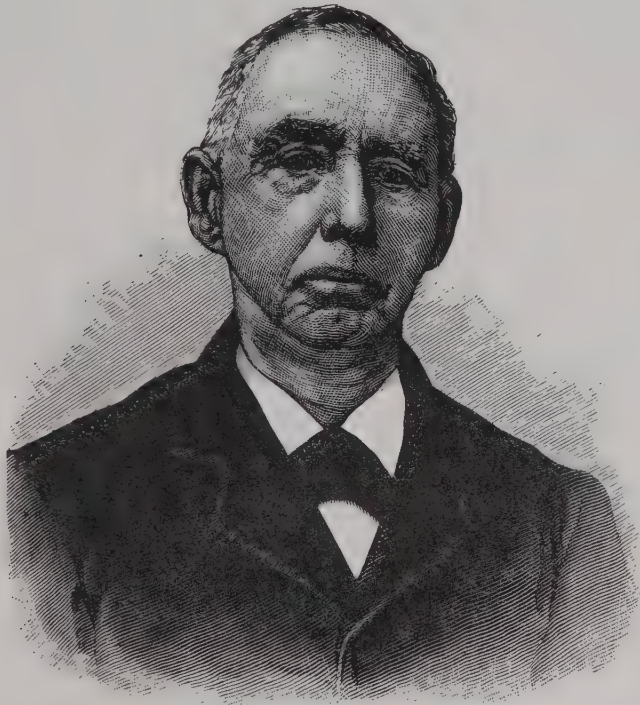
¹ The other children were William, Mary, who married Septimus Evans, Benjamin, Andrew. The last-named married Elizabeth, daughter of Jesse Beans, and he has one daughter, Elizabeth, surviving, who resides on her grandfather Bean's farm, in Warminster township, in Bucks County.

born November 29, 1830, graduated at the Homœopathic College in 1853, removed to Morgantown, W. Va., where he married Mary, daughter of William and Ellen Willey, on the 10th of May, A.D. 1859. She died September 24, 1862, without children, and in October, 1866, he married Margaret, daughter of John Prutzman, of Morgantown, W. Va., and have three children,—Mary, Byron and John. Catharine J. was born October 27, 1833, and was married March 6, 1856, to Henry W. Bonsall, attorney-at-law, Norristown, Pa., and had two children, Alice C. and J. Bartram. She died August 2, 1861, aged twenty-seven years.

able to make additions to his farm, effect many improvements, and erect a good house and out-buildings, the former being built in 1852 and the latter at different times as needed.

Mr. Morgan has been a very active man, but having no particular taste for public affairs, has taken but little part in them, preferring the more modest and quiet walks of life. In politics he was a Whig, and is now a Republican. He has been for forty years a member of the Baptist Church.

Although in his seventy-first year, Mr. Morgan is hale and sturdy and his mind unimpaired. He lost



Andrew Morgan

Theodore was married to Mary, daughter of Christian Detwiler, February 3, 1835.

Andrew, whose name forms the caption of this sketch, as he grew to manhood gained a practical knowledge of the tanner's trade and farming. In 1836 he married Ann Rebecca Allabough, of Perkio-men township, daughter of David and Sarah Allabough. In 1841, having purchased about sixty acres of the farm in Worcester township, on which he at present resides, he removed here with his little family. He bought a tannery and began business in that useful department of industry, and at the same time carried on farming. He applied himself closely to his two avocations and prospered in both so that he was

his wife, his faithful helpmeet through the years of his mature life, on September 4, 1881. Six children, of whom one died in infancy, were the offspring of this union.

Sarah J., oldest child of Andrew Morgan, was born March 11, 1839, and married Dr. John S. Shrawder, October 27, 1870. They have had five children, the oldest of whom died in infancy; the other four are living. In the order of their birth, their names are as follows: Clifford Beecher Shrawder, born December 3, 1871, died October 1, 1872; Larrie E. Shrawder, born October 8, 1873; Joseph Shrawder, Jr., born August 27, 1875; Laura K. Shrawder, born March 15, 1879; James M. Shrawder, born June 7, 1881.

John C., who was born October 20, 1840, succeeded his father in the tanning business in 1866. He was married December 17, 1868, to Cornelia, daughter of Benjamin Baker, of Norriton township, and have two daughters, Adele C. and Anna Rebecca.

James A. was born March 9, 1844, and married Bella, daughter of Henry Baker, of Norriton township.

Theodore, who was born September 22, 1847, resides with his father at the old homestead and carries on the farm. He married Fannie, daughter of Joseph Brower, of Upper Providence. Their children are Theodore H., born November 8, 1873; Mary B., born December 16, 1875; Helen A., born December 31, 1878; Flora R., born September 14, 1880; Andrew, born February 13, 1884.

Belle was born March 4, 1850, and was married to William Wood, of Whitpain township, January 9, 1883, and their children are as follows: Andrew Morgan, Jonathan Howard, and Rebecca Allabough Wood.

Elizabeth W. Morgan married Garrett D. Hunsicker, February 19, 1839. The latter died February 19, 1879, and the former October 20, 1883. Their children are Theodore M., born June 14, 1841, died March 14, 1843; John Quincy, born March 23, 1844, an attorney in Philadelphia; Morgan, born June 10, 1846, died March 14, 1847; Mary M., born June 1, 1848, died July 31, 1876; Ella M., born January 25, 1851; Robert Melville, born April 25, 1854. Mary M. Hunsicker married John R. Thomas, February 16, 1871. John Quincy Hunsicker married Mary E. Stiles, June 26, 1873. She died December 21, 1879.

Mary Jane Morgan married George Knabb, February 22, 1842. He was at that time a resident of Upper Providence, but was a native of Union township, Berks County, and was born January 26, 1809. He died at Port Indian, in Montgomery County, on November 7, 1865, and was buried at the Lower Providence Baptist Burial-Ground. The children of George and Mary Jane (Morgan) Knabb were Morgan, born February 10, 1846, died in infancy; Ida, born October 11, 1850, died February 27, 1879; Theodore, born April 28, 1854; Wigton, born June 8, 1856, died in infancy; and Ella, born March 17, 1861. Mrs. Knabb is a resident of Norristown.

REV. SAMUEL AARON, A.M.¹

The most noted clergyman that has figured in Montgomery County annals during the past forty years was undoubtedly Rev. Samuel Aaron. In mere scholastic sermonizing or revival power we may have had his superiors, but in breadth of intellect, exalted imagination, gifts of oratory, melting pathos, abounding charity and liberality, both of religious sentiment and alms-giving, we never had a greater. He was preacher, politician, philanthropist and teacher, all combined in

one. There was no necessary incongruity in this strange conjuncture of functions, for, says one of his biographers, "his religion was his politics and his politics his religion." He drew his political aphorisms from the Bible, and his faith within the compass of Scripture morals had no sect in it.

Samuel Aaron was born in New Britain township, Bucks Co., Pa., October 19, 1800, and was at the time of his death (April 11, 1865), in the sixty-fifth year of his age. He was of Welsh-Irish extraction, his father being of Welsh and his mother of Irish descent. The offspring of a second marriage of his father, he was the youngest but one of four brothers, the family consisting also of three sisters. His father, Moses Aaron, a farmer of respectable circumstances, was (also his wife, Hannah,) a member of the Baptist Church, and a man of sincere piety. Mr. Aaron always spoke of his father as "a good man," and cherished his memory. His mother died when he was but three years old, and at the age of six he had the misfortune to lose his father also. Left an orphan at this tender age, he was placed under the care and control of an uncle, a kind-hearted man by nature, but unfortunately addicted to habits of intemperance. The little boy was frequently obliged to trudge bare-footed to the village store and back with a jug of liquor; and the sad condition of his guardian's family and business affairs, and the neglectful treatment he experienced then, made him in after-life the terrible enemy he was of every form of intemperance. He worked on his uncle's farm till about sixteen years of age, receiving each winter a little schooling, when, obtaining a small patrimony inherited from his father, he entered the academy of Rev. Uriah Dubois, of Doylestown. At twenty he connected himself with the Classical and Mathematical School of John Gummere, at Burlington, N. J., as both a student and assistant teacher. In the year 1824 he married Emilia, eldest daughter of his old friend and preceptor, Rev. Mr. Dubois, and not long after left Burlington and opened day-school at Bridge Point, about two miles from Doylestown. Remaining there but a short time, he next became principal of Doylestown Academy. In 1826 he made a profession of religion, became a member of the Baptist Church and was ordained a minister, and in 1829 became pastor of the church of New Britain, near Doylestown. In February, 1830, his wife died, leaving him two children, Martha and Charles E. Aaron, two others having died in infancy. The death of a wife, with children to care for, is a terrible loss to a young minister; so three years after, April, 1833, he married Eliza G., daughter of Samuel Curry, a farmer of New Britain township. He immediately removed to Burlington, N. J., where he was assigned to the principalship of the High School; he also became pastor of the Burlington Baptist Church. In April, 1841, he was called to the Norristown Baptist Church, at the same time opening a select school for boys on the premises of the late Dr. Ralston. Mr. Aaron's popularity at

¹ For portrait of Samuel Aaron, see chapter on Education.

this date as a champion of temperance and anti-slavery, and also as a teacher of youth, was such as prepared the way for the establishment of "Tree-mount," which was operated in 1844. He taught for a period of forty-five years, and for seventeen years added the duties of an active, aggressive pastor,—three years at New Britain, five at Burlington, three at Norristown and six at Mount Holly. The degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him in 1838, and later he was tendered the presidency of Central College, at McGrawville, which he declined. His declining years were darkened by financial reverses, but

of its most successful farmers,—so successful, in fact, that he is about to retire from active labor,—was the son of Arnold and the grandson of Peter Saylor, and was born in Lower Providence, September 15, 1828, the fourth in a family of nine children,—seven girls and two boys. Those older than Andrew J. were Elizabeth (widow of Abram Hallman, now living in Philadelphia), Emmeline (Mrs. George L. Bosser, deceased), and Mary Ann (Mrs. Jesse Hallman), of Norristown. Those younger are John C., who married Mary Ann Detwiler, and is now a resident of Lower Providence; Susannah, Angeline, Sarah K.



Andrew J. Saylor

these troubles never obscured his philosophic visions of life and its true source of happiness. Mr. Post, his biographer, says of him: "He lived to see the triumph of the principle he advocated, and the dawning of a new national day. On hearing of the fall of Richmond, and the surrender of Lee, April 9, 1865, two days before his death, he exclaimed, 'Thank God, I rejoice in the salvation of my country!' His last words were,—'Thy grace is sufficient for me.' He died April 11, 1865, in the sixty-fifth year of his age."

ANDREW J. SAYLOR.

Andrew J. Saylor, of Worcester, and known as one

and Isabella. The wife of Arnold Saylor and mother of these children was Mary Casselberry, a native of Lower Providence, who is now living and in her eighty-fourth year. Her home is in Philadelphia, and she has, in her old age, a great comfort in the companionship of her daughters, who reside with her.

Reverting to Arnold Saylor, the father of our present subject, it may be stated that in 1843 he purchased, and in 1844 removed to, the farm in Worcester, which his son now owns. He died here in 1856, and Andrew J. Saylor, who came to the farm a lad of sixteen, being then in his twenty-eighth year, possessing a practical knowledge of farming, and being full

of energy and ambition to make his way in the world, bought the homestead from the heirs. It consisted of seventy-two acres of good land, but the improvements upon it were not of the best order.

Mr. Saylor's industry and good management, however, soon provided means for the erection of suitable buildings and a very material betterment of the condition of the farm. The dwelling—a spacious stone structure, plastered—is three stories in height. The barn and other out-buildings are in keeping with it.

As we have already said, years of diligent and judicious labor had placed Mr. Saylor in an independent position, and the remainder of his life will, if no unforeseen disaster should take place, be passed in well-earned ease. He has always been an adherent of the Democratic party, but never has taken more than a good citizen's interest in politics and has never had a thought of office-holding.

His religious affiliation is with the Lower Providence Presbyterian Church.

On January 1, 1857, shortly after Mr. Saylor had acquired ownership of the farm, he took, as his wife, Julia A. Johnson, of Norristown, who was born in Worcester township in 1830, her parents being Isaac and Catherine Brumback Johnson, the latter a daughter of Matthias and Mary Brumback.

DAVID TRUCKSESS.

This active, influential and well-known resident of Montgomery County was born in Würtemberg, Germany (im Maulbronner Oberamt), March 25, 1814, and was of noble blood, but his ancestral branch of the family did not enjoy any of the usual privileges of the titled classes because their descent was not in the line of the oldest son. It may be added that if they were of such sturdy stuff as that of which the present generations of the family in Worcester are made, they did not need the advantages of class prerogative or inherited wealth to insure successful careers.

The parents of David, Jacob and Reghena Trucksess brought him, with a younger brother, who died soon after, to America, in 1819. There were no steamships then, and the tedious trip from Amsterdam, Holland, to Philadelphia, occupied about four months' time—from balmy April in the old world to burning August in the new. The family settled in Worcester township, Montgomery County, and there the parents passed the remainder of their lives with the exception of a few years. They are buried at the Trappe Lutheran Church. A daughter was born to them, but she died in her sixteenth year, leaving David the only child. The boy was hired out during the summer seasons and sent to school a little in the winter, but his early education was limited, because there were then no free schools for the poor and his parents could not afford to pay his tuition for long periods at the private schools. At the age of seventeen he was bound as an indented apprentice to learn the shoemaking

trade in Philadelphia. He served his time faithfully, learned the trade thoroughly, went to Norriton and worked six months as a journeyman, and then began business for himself, boarding in the house of George Anders. A year later, on the 19th of April, 1835, he married Sophia Foster. The young couple rented two rooms of Mr. Anders, and a year later, upon his advice and assistance, Mr. Trucksess bought the little farm of sixteen (now twenty-eight acres), upon which he now resides. In April, 1836, he had a house and barn built, and in April, 1837, he and his wife made their home upon the place. Farming was carried on in connection with shoemaking, and Mr. Trucksess succeeded, finally, in bringing the land, originally quite poor, into good condition. Mr. Trucksess, in recalling the beginning of his business career, says that he "had no capital, but good health, willing hands, and a good wife." This seemed, however, to be sufficient. There was then but one shoe-store in Norristown, but he made boots and shoes for Bean & Schrack, Hoven & Thomas and Moore & Longaker, general store-keepers of that place. The first ten years was a period of hard work and self-denial and many discouragements, but better days came, as they are apt to, to those who do the best they can during the dark ones. The farm was made to maintain the family, and what was made by labor at the shop was either used in making improvements or invested from year to year in other property. Close application to business and economy have been the elements of Mr. Trucksess' prosperity. He has now four farms and two houses, all paid for, and enjoys a comfortable independence. He was able to care for and give a home to his parents during their old age and has brought up a large family of his own in the enjoyment of unusual advantages.

The subject of our sketch has been, outside of the strict lines of his calling, fully as untiring and industrious as within, and enjoys a wide reputation as a man of affairs. His activity has been almost incredible and his reputation for carefulness and strict probity has led his fellow-citizens of the township and county to place him in various positions of trust, which have largely added to the demands upon his time. Early in life he was identified with the militia, being chosen first lieutenant in 1838, captain in the following year, and major ten years later. He was first lieutenant of the Washington Gray Artillery, and served during the riots in Philadelphia in 1844. He was an early advocate of the free-school system, and used his influence toward bringing about the adoption of the law providing for that measure, when it was quite an unpopular one. When the general law came into force, in 1851, he was made president of the board of directors for Worcester township, appointed by the court, and was once afterwards elected to the same position. Having considerable natural talent for music, he occupied his spare hours for a period of fifteen years in teaching singing and organizing choirs.

At one time he had nine different classes and over six hundred pupils to meet each week. Mr. Trucksess served, for five years, as a justice of the peace, and has held numerous other offices since 1838, among them being that of assistant internal revenue assessor in 1867-68. This position, like the others, was given to him without any solicitation upon his part, and was unexpected.

A very fair idea of the estimate of the high consideration in which he is held by those who know him best—the people of his own community and those of the county—is afforded by a glance at the list of honorable positions to which he has been elected by various bodies. He was a charter member and was

1835, a half-century of union has now been completed. Mrs. Trucksess' father was John Foster, and her mother's maiden-name was Birkenbine. She was born in Reading, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Trucksess are the parents of ten children. The oldest son, Jacob, married Mary Roudenbush, of Salfordville, and is the father of two daughters. The second son, George A., married Mary W. Irwin, of Norristown. They have one son and two daughters. David, Jr., married Sarah Hallman, of Bridgeport, and is the father of two sons and three daughters. John F. married Mary Dettera, of Worcester, and has two daughters living. Andrew J., who succeeded to his father's shoemaking business, has been the organist at the Presbyterian



David Trucksess

chosen president of the Union Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Company of Norristown; president the last six years; has been president of the Norritonville Live Stock Insurance Association for the past fifteen years; has been president of the Farmers' Union Horse Company (for the protection of horses and the detection of thieves), during the past forty years, and is also president of the board of trustees of the Norriton and Lower Providence Presbyterian Church and of the Fairview Village Creamery Company, having held the latter office since the organization of its management.

In politics he is a Democrat.

Mention has been made of the marriage of Mr. Trucksess. As that event was solemnized on April 19,

Church twenty years, and has inherited something of his talent for music, resides with his parents at the old homestead. His wife was Sarah J. Landis, of Perkio-men Bridge. They have four sons and one daughter. Margaret A. Trucksess is the wife of John Detwiler, of Philadelphia. Ann Rebecca is the wife of William H. Van Horn, of Philadelphia, and the mother of three children,—two sons and one daughter. Sophia F. is the wife of Leshar W. Mattern, of West Point, Montgomery County, and has two children, one son and one daughter. Elizabeth A. married C. C. Keeler (now deceased), and has two children, twin sons, and resides with her parents. The youngest of the ten children, Miss Ida V., resides with her parents.

APPENDIX.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, AT NORRISTOWN, PA., SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11, 12, 1884.

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ADDRESS	Hon. B. Markley Boyer
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CERTIFICATE.

The following constitutes a correct record of the proceedings connected with the Centennial Celebration of Montgomery County, Pa., with a list of exhibits and exhibitors, compiled from the original Entry Books, under the direction of the Centennial Association of Montgomery County, Penna.

Attest:

Joseph Fornance

President.

F. G. Hobson.

Recording Secretary.

Muscoe M. Gibson,

Corresponding Secretary.

At a regular meeting of the Montgomery County Historical Society, held May 25, 1882, the project of a suitable celebration of the centennial of the county's organization, in 1884, was discussed at some length, and a committee appointed to confer with a similar committee of the county officials to consider the proper observance of that occasion; said committee consisting of F. G. Hobson, Esq., Hon. Jones Detwiler and A. K. Thomas. On the same day the county officials met at the office of Irving P. Wanger, Esq., district attorney, to take similar action. At that meeting a committee, consisting of Henry W. Kratz, recorder of deeds, J. Roberts Rambo, register of wills, and Jacob R. Yost, county treasurer, was appointed to act in conjunction with the committee of the Historical Society. On the afternoon of the same day the two above committees met in the rooms of the Historical Society and effected a permanent organization. At the same time it was determined that a general committee be appointed, consisting of one person from each election district in the county, into whose hands the whole work of the celebration be placed. That general committee was gradually selected and the names of its members made public at the annual meeting of the Historical Society, February 22, 1883.

Here the matter was again left to rest until Monday, the 10th day of September, 1883, when, on the call of the chairman, the General Committee came together in the room of the Historical Society, at the courthouse. Here the real work began. Though few responded to the first call, yet those that did assemble were imbued with the idea that the matter was worthy of considerable effort and could be made a pronounced success. The following persons were present at the first meeting, viz.: Dr. J. E. Bauman, of Franconia; the Rev. C. Z. Weiser, D. D., of East Greenville; Dr. C. H. Mann, of Bridgeport; Isaac R. Rosenberger, Hatfield; John Walton, Horsham; William J. Buck, Jenkintown; J. J. Morrison, Moreland; Hon. Isaac F. Yost, New Hanover; Joseph For-

nance, Esq., First Ward, Norristown; John W. Bickel, Esq., Second Ward, Norristown; Hon. George N. Corson, Sixth Ward, Norristown; Dr. Samuel Wolfe, East Perkiomen; Albert Bromer, West Perkiomen; D. Morgan Casselberry, Lower Providence; and Joseph Fitzwater, Upper Providence; in addition to Col. Theodore W. Bean, F. G. Hobson, Esq., and Hon. Jones Detwiler, of the Historical Society, and J. Roberts Rambo, of the county officials. The chairman of the joint committee called the body to order, and stated the object of the assembling, after which Hon. Jones Detwiler was unanimously chosen temporary president. On suggestion of the committee on permanent organization the following officers were unanimously elected: President, Hon. B. Markley Boyer; Vice-Presidents, Joseph Fornance, Esq., Wharton Barker, Hon. Isaac F. Yost, Philip Super, Warner Roberts, Robert Iredell, Dr. Hiram Corson, Abraham H. Cassel, Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D., George Lower and Daniel Foulke; Recording Secretary, F. G. Hobson, Esq.; Corresponding Secretary, Muscoe M. Gibson, Esq.; Treasurer, Lewis Styer. At the same time the following chairmen of the various committees were appointed and authority was given each to appoint a number of members on each committee. Executive, F. G. Hobson, Esq.; Finance, David H. Ross, Esq.; Antiquarian, William J. Buck; Literary Exercises, Hon. George N. Corson; Music, Prof. Thomas O'Neill; Parades, Col. John W. Schall; Programme, Col. Theo. W. Bean; Memorial, Hon. Jones Detwiler.

The next meeting of the association was held at the same place, on the 15th of November, 1883.

Prof. Thomas O'Neill, declining to serve as chairman of the Music Committee, Henry W. Kratz was appointed in his stead and place. At this meeting the several chairmen of committees announced their associates. As the business to be brought before the Association accumulated, it was resolved to meet each month, on the Thursday next following the 22d of the month.

At this time the general nature of the celebration was discussed at length, resulting substantially in the plan afterwards successfully carried out.

The Memorial Committee was instructed to have prepared and erected a granite monolith to the memory of David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, to be placed in front of the Court-House, marking a continuation of the surveyor's meridian line.

On December 27, 1883, and January 24, 1884, regular meetings were held, at which the various committees reported and further plans were discussed concerning the manner of celebrating the forthcoming anniversary. The next meeting of the association was held on February 22, 1884, Hon. B. Markley Boyer presiding, when plans were discussed for raising money to defray the necessary expenses of the celebration and were referred to the Finance Committee. Col. Theodore W. Bean was appointed chairman of a committee to invite the different civic and fraternal organizations of the county to parade, and Mrs. Sarah S. Rex was appointed chairman of a committee to prepare and issue a circular to the householders of the county, suggesting the kind of articles desired for the exposition, and requesting their loan for the same, with the power to appoint committees of ladies in each township and ward who were to make a complete canvass of the several districts. The thoroughness with which these instructions were carried out is attested by the complete list of ladies reporting from nearly every district in the county; and to these committees is due the credit of canvassing, reporting and actually collecting most of the exhibits placed in the antiquarian exposition.

On April 10, 1884, an adjourned meeting of the association was held, at which the important question of finance was finally decided, and upon suggestion of the Finance Committee a season-ticket, good for four admissions to the antiquarian exposition, was ordered to be issued at once, to be sold at one dollar each, with which was to be presented a memorial certificate of membership of the association. A communication from Hon. B. Markley Boyer was read, asking to be excused from further services as President of the Association, on account of the press of his judicial duties, but still extending to the association his best wishes for success, and promise of hearty co-operation. The vacancy was filled at the following meeting, May 15, 1884, by unanimously electing George W. Rogers, Esq., as President, but as he was about to sail for Europe, to be absent until the close of the Centennial, he tendered his resignation at the meeting of May 29, 1884, when Joseph Fornance, Esq., was unanimously elected to that position.

Of first importance were the finances. Money had to be raised in sufficient amount to assure success. The Finance Committee organizing with David H. Ross, Esq., chairman, and J. A. Strassburger, Esq., as its secretary and treasurer, soon had a plan matured. It pressed the sale of season tickets and memorial certificates vigorously, and popularized this plan of raising the needful funds. Each election district was asked to subscribe one hundred dollars. Within four days of sending out the supplies to the different committeemen, the upper district of Upper Providence, under the canvass of Professor J. Shelly Weinberger, had subscribed and paid its full quota. Other townships rapidly followed, until the total amount realized from advance sale of tickets and memorial certificates amounted to the sum of three thousand five hundred and fifty dollars. Credit is undoubtedly due to Mr. Strassburger for his active, energetic and systematic work in raising the necessary funds as well as arousing public interest.

The next meeting of the association was held on July 24th, and was one of its largest gatherings. The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company announced their willingness to return free of charge all articles shipped over their line, by express, consigned to the exposition, and also to give the association a liberal rebate on tickets sold to and from Norristown during the centennial. The full committees on parade, antiquarian and memorial were announced: also a committee, composed of persons

identified with the county, but residing in Philadelphia at the present time, said committee being known as the "Auxiliary Committee in Philadelphia," of which James B. Harvey was chairman.

At the meeting of the 6th of August, a great amount of detail work was attended to, and from that time the Executive Committee met almost daily, to pass upon the various questions as they arose.

The Building Committee had a space one hundred feet square floored over in the Court-House lot, upon which were erected four large tents. The court-room was floored over the tops of the seats, and glass cases arranged around the sides of the room and upon three large tables running its entire length. The Grand Jury room was prepared as the Art Gallery, and placed in proper shape under the special direction of Mr. J. W. Ridpath, of Jenkintown, who is deserving of special mention, as giving invaluable assistance in fitting up the room and arranging the pictures in proper place. He was assisted in this by Miss Sophia S. Freedley, of Norristown, a teacher in the Philadelphia School of Design for Women. The two arbitration rooms were fitted up with tables, upon which were exhibited the old and rare books of the county. When the exhibition opened everything was in readiness.

The Committee on Vocal Music met soon after their appointment, and invited about two hundred persons to assist in singing, on September 10. About half of that number assembled in response to the invitation, and selecting Professor J. V. Bean as their leader, soon became an efficient chorus.

An immense amount of work was necessary to get everything in running order. But so well was it managed, that when Tuesday morning, the 9th of September, A. D. 1884, came, it found everything in its place. A committee of ladies and gentlemen devoted special attention to the decorations of the Court House and Music Hall, and both were greatly improved in appearance by the artistic arrangement of plants, flags and red, white and blue bunting. The work of the Committee on Parade, the Antiquarian Committee, memorial and literary exercises were most complete and satisfactory.

The morning of Tuesday, September 9, 1884, witnessed the opening exercises of the centennial celebration of Montgomery County. The crowd early gathered at the County Court-House, and upon its porch and steps were the officers of the Centennial Association and invited guests.

Shortly after nine o'clock, Joseph Fornance, Esq., president of the Centennial Association, came forward and said: "Citizens of Montgomery County, we have met here to hold the opening exercises of the celebration of our county's centennial. I present to you the Rev. Dr. Bomberger, president of Ursinus College.

Dr. Bomberger then spoke as follows:

"I have been asked, my friends, to open these commemorative festivities with prayer; with prayer to Almighty God. It is eminently fitting that an occasion like this should be so begun. We owe to Him the blessings we enjoy from the first establishment of our fathers in this country, and especially in this section of it. We owe to Him all that we possess to-day in the way of real prosperity and progress. Let us therefore endeavor, not with the ceremonial formality of a merely decorous prelude to this interesting occasion, but with devout reverence for Him to whom our heartiest adoration belongs, to engage sincerely and heartily, in supplication, thanksgiving and prayer. Let us pray."

PRAYER.

"Almighty God, the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth, and our Creator, gathered here under Thine own Heaven, and surrounded by the works of Thy hands, and realizing that we are Thy creatures, we would come at the beginning of these interesting solemnities and festivities, and look to Thee with devoutly worshipful and thankful hearts, to praise Thy name as we ought to praise Thee for all Thou art, glorious in Holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders, and for all Thou art pleased to be to us, and thus worthily magnify Thy Great and Excellent Name. Help

us in these festivities thankfully to call to mind all Thou hast done for us, all Thou didst for our fathers in generations past. Although we have proved unworthy of Thy many mercies, grant us grace most heartily to feel, deplore and confess our unworthiness, and yet penitently rely on Thy forgiving grace in Jesus Christ Thy Son. We desire heartily to thank Thee for all Thou hast done for us as a people in days gone by; that Thou didst bring our fathers to a land rich and richly furnished in all things needful for their bodily comfort. We praise Thee for the temporal prosperity that has attended their efforts, and the rich inheritance we have received from them and through them in the earthly gifts which so abundantly surround us; for a rich and fertile land; for a healthful country, and for all the resources of it, the wealth and temporal comforts which abound on every side. But above all do we praise Thy Name that Thou wast pleased to bring to this land a people that feared God and loved righteousness; that brought with them not only desires for worldly prosperity, but principles founded on Thy Holy Word, derived from Thy Gospel, and that have been faithfully sown and maintained in our midst. O! help us to remember with grateful hearts how largely we are indebted to them, and above all to Thee through them, in these respects. May we prove worthy of the holy and blessed inheritance that has been secured and handed down to us. May we not forsake the God of our fathers nor the gospel of our fathers, never turn our backs upon the grace which gave them such peace, such power, and influence for good. We thank Thee for the educational institutions which they founded along-side of the churches they built here years ago, and praise Thy name that what was thus planned has been carried forward and that we enjoy the improvements that have been so secured. And now, Lord, we invoke Thy blessing upon this occasion. Throughout these days of joyous festivities, help us to fear Thy name, and amidst all our gladness to praise the Lord, and may our purpose to serve Thee be deepened and confirmed, that we may go forward into the future a people full of the fear of the Lord, sober, righteous, God-loving, cleaving to the great truths of the gospel, handing them down in Thy name unaltered and uncorrupted to generations to come, that when another centennial shall occur our descendants may rise up to magnify Thy name for what Thou hast through us accomplished on their behalf. Hear our prayer and accept of us in Christ, our adorable Redeemer, unto whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost, we will give immortal praise. Amen."

After music by the band Mr. Fornance said:

"The Burgess of the town, John H. White, was to have been here to welcome you this morning. Unfortunately he is prostrated on a bed of sickness. In his absence the Solicitor for Town Council, J. P. Hale Jenkins, Esq., of Norristown, will address you."

Mr. Jenkins delivered the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

"In behalf of the Burgess of the borough of Norristown, now stricken with disease, I speak to you, Mr. President, and to you, ladies and gentlemen, fellow-citizens, all, welcome.

"To-day closes the first century of our existence as a county. There can be no hesitancy in saying that none of those who lived within its borders at the time of its organization, imagined that the close of the first century would find it the home of a hundred thousand happy souls. It is but proper, therefore, that we should meet to inaugurate the ceremonies about to take place and eminently fitting is it that these ceremonies should commence by dedicating a meridian stone to the greatest son of her soil, the father of olden science.

"The men of one hundred years ago knew nothing of steam as a motive power. To-day iron roads traverse our county from end to end and from side to side. Little did they know of the mechanical arts, but now, by the aid of inventive genius, our beautiful valleys are dotted all over with the busy mill and work-shop. The Constitution of the United States was not framed when our county was organized. Now, securing

to all political freedom and religious tolerance, 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,' it is an assured fact—a union of States which none can sever.

"Let me then say in welcoming you to our county seat on this gala day, that we should devoutly thank an indulgent Providence for the many blessings bestowed upon us in the past, and pray that the institutions which made these blessings possible be secured to us, our children, and our children's children forever.

"Again I bid you, in the name of the Burgess and Town Council of the borough of Norristown, a hearty, thrice hearty welcome."

At the conclusion of Mr. Jenkins' remarks, Mr. Fornance, President of the Association, delivered the following

ADDRESS:

"To-day closes the first century of the existence of Montgomery County. We are here from all parts of the county to celebrate the event. Not only from our own county have you come, but also from adjoining counties some are here to rejoice with us. You have just been welcomed by the representative of the municipal authorities of Norristown. On behalf of the Centennial Association, and speaking for the people of Montgomery County, I also give you a welcome.

"It is proper for us to come together and celebrate the occasion in a manner befitting the event. We have cause to rejoice. The century just rolled by has brought us great prosperity. In forming the county, the chief idea was nearness to the Court-House. The act of Assembly, establishing the county, states that the cause for cutting off three-fourths of Philadelphia County and making Montgomery County of it, was its great distance from the courts at Philadelphia. That seems a strange reason now; for railroads and telegraphs and telephones have annihilated distance. The easy access to this Court-House is shown by the presence of many of you who have left your distant homes to-day, and are here at this early hour. By railroad, the remotest station in the county is but two hours ride from the county seat, while Norristown itself is but forty minutes ride from the heart of Philadelphia.

"There is a tradition to the effect that it was urged that the county seat should be located where the Egypt road diverges from the great road from Philadelphia, at Jeffersonville; but it was finally decided to locate it some three miles further down, where a road branched off to Swedes' Ford. Here they built the county buildings; a village sprang up around them, and here is to-day the great town of Norristown.

"Of the five men who were authorized one hundred years ago to buy a piece of land in Norriton township, near Stony run, and contiguous to the Schuylkill River, and erect thereon the county buildings for the new county, not one would have dreamed of prophesying the growth that has followed their selection. The county has grown from twenty thousand to one hundred thousand in population. The town has grown from nothing to nearly fifteen thousand. Our growth has been great in the past; it must be greater still in the future. Situated as we are, in the centre of a network of railroads, near to the great coal beds of Pennsylvania, with easy access to the two largest cities of the country in the midst of fine scenery, with fertile land, and healthful surroundings, we have every element for future development.

"Montgomery County was established September 10, 1784. Franklin County was established September 9, 1784. There is but one day difference between our ages. At Chambersburg, the county seat of Franklin County, they are to-day celebrating their centennial. It is proper that we should send them some greeting. On your behalf I will therefore send them this telegram,—

"COURT-HOUSE, NORRISTOWN, PA., September 9, 1884.

"To the Centennial Association of Franklin Co., Chambersburg, Pa.:

"Montgomery county congratulates her twin-sister on her one hundredth birthday."

"CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION OF MONTGOMERY CO.

"As we mark this era, we contemplate the past, and part of our centennial celebration is the Antiquarian Exposition. Here are displayed the possessions of our own ancestors for comparison with things of to-day. We have collected from our own people the prized treasures of a century. Here are revived fashions of times so different from ours. Here are the works of once busy hands that have long since crumbled into dust. We see their works, we are reminded of their ways in many respects simpler and more frugal than ours. We honor and respect their memories.

"On behalf of the Centennial Association, I declare this exposition now open."

After music by the band, the people in large numbers sought admission to the Antiquarian Exposition.

DEDICATION OF RITTENHOUSE MERIDIAN STONE.

At eleven o'clock A.M. on Tuesday, September 9th, in the presence of a large concourse of people, the ceremonies of unveiling the monolith took place. Joseph Farnance, Esq., president of the association, standing near the granite stone, said,—

"A Committee was appointed by the Centennial Association to erect a suitable memorial to the memory of David Rittenhouse. Is that committee ready to report?"

Hon. Jones Detwiler, chairman of the committee, spoke as follows,—

"Mr. President: In behalf of the Memorial Committee, appointed by the Montgomery County Centennial Association, and at their request, I present the following report as their action." [Report handed to Mr. Farnance].

Mr. Farnance, in receiving the report, said,—

"The committee appointed present the following report."

The report was then read.

REPORT.

"At a meeting of the Centennial Association of Montgomery County, Pa., held February 22, 1883, Jones Detwiler was appointed chairman of the Memorial Committee of said Association.

"After due consideration and deliberation, on the part of the chairman, the following additional members of the committee were appointed, viz.,—Dr. Hiram Corson, of Plymouth; John Hoffman, Esq., Hon. Hiram C. Hoover, ex-County Treasurer Samuel Jarrett and Samuel Rittenhouse, of the township of Norriton.

"At a meeting of the committee, held July 24, 1884, all the members present, it was unanimously

"Resolved,—That a monolith, to be styled the memorial stone, be erected to the memory of the eminent philosopher, astronomer and mathematician, David Rittenhouse, once a resident of the township of Norriton, Montgomery Co. The stone to be of solid Quincy granite, seven feet in height, twenty-four inches at the base, and eighteen at the top, with four sides polished for inscriptions, and to be planted in the ground to the depth of four feet, imbedded in masonry of stone and cement.

"After consultation on the part of the committee with the different stone-cutters of Norristown, it was agreed to award the contract to George W. Smith.

"Dr. Hiram Corson was appointed a committee to prepare a suitable inscription for the same.

"John Hoffman was appointed a committee to superintend the erection, to have the privilege to call to his aid such assistance as should be required.

"It was agreed to erect the stone at the north end of the present meridian line, and to extend the said line about four feet without disturbing the present stones already planted, and to have the ceremonies connected with the unveiling, and passing it over to the proper authorities, to take place on September 9, 1884, at eleven o'clock A.M.

"This is to certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of our proceedings.

"JONES DETWILER, Chairman.

"HIRAM CORSON, M.D.

"JOHN HOFFMAN.

"HIRAM C. HOOVER.

"SAMUEL F. JARRETT.

"SAMUEL RITTENHOUSE."

Mr. Farnance then said,—

"Colonel Bean, to you, as President of the Historical Society of Montgomery County, I deliver this report of the memorial committee."

Col. Theo. W. Bean said,—

"Mr. Chairman, in the name and in behalf of the Historical Society of Montgomery County, it affords me great pleasure to receive and accept the report of this Memorial Committee. It shall become part of the records of the society referred to, and shall ever be cherished as an interesting memorial of the event which it reports.

"By courtesy, it is now my pleasure, ladies and gentlemen, in furtherance of this memorial service, to introduce the Hon. B. Markley Boyer, who will make an appropriate address upon this interesting occasion."

Being thus introduced, Judge B. Markley Boyer made the following

ADDRESS.

"Fellow-citizens: It was a happy inspiration to have engraved upon the meridian stone planted upon the Court House terrace, and dedicated this day to its appropriate uses, the name of David Rittenhouse.

"Born in the county of Philadelphia, of which Montgomery was then a part, he resided in youth and manhood, during most of his life-time, within the present limits of our county. In Norriton township, within about five miles of this Court House, stood his patrimonial mansion. There lies the farm upon which, as a farmer boy, he grew to manhood, and there, throughout most of his life, he afterwards resided.

"There, in a little shop by the wayside, without other instruction than the intuitive promptings of an extraordinary genius, he taught himself to make clocks and mathematical instruments. His clocks remarkable for their accuracy and the beauty of their workmanship, are still treasured as heirlooms in many a household. There, in Norriton, he erected his observatory; there, with instruments in a great measure constructed with his own hands, he explored the heavens.

"There, learned scientists went for consultation and to participate with him in his observations. There it was he constructed his wonderful orrery, illustrating mechanically the movements of the solar system, upon a scale more elaborate and exact than had ever before been attempted, and which was a marvel of mechanical skill, exhibiting by the simple turning of a winch, the relative positions of the planets and their satellites in their respective orbits at any given point of time during thousands of years in the future and in the past. No description can impart any adequate conception of this marvelous achievement in mechanical art.

"In alluding to it, Thomas Jefferson, who was a philosopher as well as a statesman, wrote: 'We have supposed Mr. Rittenhouse second to no astronomer living; that in genius he must be the first, because he was self-taught. As an artist, he has exhibited as great a proof of mechanical genius as the world has ever produced. He has not, indeed, made a world, but he has, by imitation, approached nearer its Maker than any man who has ever lived from creation to this day.'

"In his observatory in Norriton, he observed and calculated the transit of Venus in 1769, which gave him a world-wide reputation for the accuracy with which his observations had been made and mathematical deductions achieved. At that time the whole scientific world had been aroused by the vast astronomical importance of the transit of Venus over the Sun's disc, in determining the parallax of the Sun and other scientific

results depending thereupon, especially as this phenomenon can occur but twice in a century, and in some centuries not at all.

"If, among the contemporaries of Rittenhouse, there were those in Europe who left behind them the record of more original discoveries, it was owing to their ampler means and more favorable surroundings, rather than to any superiority of genius.

"Our self-taught philosopher unfortunately was not allowed to pass his life merely in philosophical contemplation and experiment. He was also a man of affairs, and participated largely in the active transactions of his countrymen. He served his country in various important and useful public capacities. He was a member of the convention which framed the first Constitution of Pennsylvania, and was elected the first Treasurer of the State, and was annually elected to that position by the unanimous vote of the Legislature for thirteen successive years.

"For the acceptance of such offices he was reproved by his friend and correspondent, Jefferson, who wrote to him in 1778 as follows:



RITTENHOUSE MERIDIAN STONE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

"Your time, for two years past, has, I believe, been principally employed in the civil government of your country. Though I have been aware of the authority our cause would acquire from its being known that yourself and Dr. Franklin were zealous friends of it, and I am myself duly impressed with a sense of the arduousness of government and the obligations of those who are able to conduct it, yet I am also satisfied that there is an order of geniuses above that obligation, and therefore ought to be exempted from it. Nobody can conceive that nature ever intended to throw away a Newton on the occupations of a crown. * * I do not doubt there are in your country many persons equal to the task of conducting government, but you should consider that the world has but one Rittenhouse."

"Nevertheless, for more than ten years afterwards, he continued to serve in the office of State Treasurer. Recognized as the first among scientific surveyors, he was successfully employed as commissioner in the

settlement of an alarming boundary dispute, between the States of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and also in determining the dividing line between the States of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

"When the United States Mint was established, David Rittenhouse was appointed by Washington its first director, and it was he who arranged the machinery and successfully organized that institution.

"His was, therefore, a busy life apart from the pursuits of pure science. What he might further have accomplished for astronomy, if his genius had been afforded exclusive and untrammelled scope in the sphere of his favorite science, none can tell. But a man so admirably equipped for practical life, and so ready and conscientious in the discharge of every duty, could hardly escape his share of the extraordinary responsibilities of citizenship in Revolutionary times, and in the organization of a new nation, struggling through its transition state from colonial to independent government.

"At such times the public services of the greatest and the best are in demand. As the result, therefore, of the public confidence in the exalted character of David Rittenhouse as a man, as well as the fame of his attainments, official employments of high civil trust, although unsought, were thrust upon him. And so, for long years, science lost the undivided devotion of his transcendent genius.

"As an astronomer and mathematician, amid all his other multifarious employments, he retained the foremost position in his own country, and as such was recognized in Europe. He succeeded Dr. Franklin as President of the American Philosophical Society, and was a fellow of the Royal Society in London. He died eighty-eight years ago, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

"Such is a brief sketch of the citizen we honor by the simple memorial inscription which marks this granite monolith. It is not intended as his monument. It is erected, primarily, for another practical and useful purpose, but of a nature kindred with his pursuits in life. As a monument to his memory, merely, it would be too insignificant. But the memorial inscription is especially significant and appropriate when we consider the practical uses of the stone. To this monolith, firmly planted in its immovable foundation, our county surveyors will make their annual visitations, to compare and correct the variations of their instruments by the true meridian; and the dedication, recorded by the inscription it bears, will ever testify to them and to all, our grateful remembrance of David Rittenhouse, once the chief among surveyors; and the honorable pride we feel in counting him, the illustrious astronomer and artisan, among those who have distinguished and adorned the history of our county; and in thus honoring him, we

honor ourselves."

At the conclusion Rev. Isaac Gibson pronounced the following.

BENEDICTION.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all, evermore. Amen.

Music by the Norristown band followed, which concluded the exercises of that day.

The meridian stone thus unveiled contains the following inscriptions:

On the east face: DAVID RITTENHOUSE,
EMINENT ASTRONOMER
AND MATHEMATICIAN.
BORN APRIL 8, 1732.
DIED JUNE 26, 1796.

On the north face: HE CALCULATED AND
OBSERVED THE TRANSIT
OF VENUS AT HIS HOME
IN NORRITON, 1796.

On the west face :

ERECTED BY THE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION.

On the south face :

1784. | 1884.

SECOND DAY.

MEMORIAL EXERCISES.

The exercises of Wednesday, September 10, were held in Music Hall.

Before ten o'clock, the time of opening, every available seat in the auditorium and gallery was filled, while great numbers crowded all the aisles and other spaces.

In the rear of the stage, arranged upon elevated seats, were the vocalists, who, with the orchestra, were under the leadership of Prof. J. V. Bean.

The exercises commenced with the rendition of an overture by the Philharmonic Orchestra of Norristown, after which the hymn, "Before Jehovah's Awful Throne," to the tune of "Migdol," was effectively rendered by the Centennial chorus and the orchestra.

Rev. H. S. Rodenbough, pastor of the Providence Presbyterian Church of Lower Providence, the oldest pastor in continuous service in the county, offered the following

PRAYER.

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, the whole earth is full of Thy glory. Great Creator, we magnify Thine infinite wisdom. All Powerful Supporter and Preserver, we rest in Thy strength. Sovereign Ruler, we own Thine authority. We bow before Thy throne. Omniscient Judge, we stand at Thy righteous bar. Kind, loving Heavenly Father, through Christ, Thine only begotten Son, our elder brother, we, Thy children, seek Thy tender care. According to Thy good pleasure, Thou settest up and Thou puttest down. Thou hast highly exalted this nation, and we would exalt the glory of Thy great name. Thou hast bountifully blessed this Commonwealth, and we would sincerely honor Thee. This county, whose centennial we now celebrate, Thou hast richly blessed in every spiritual, moral, intellectual and material interest. For so great favors we would most devoutly bless Thee, while we would humbly ask for grace, rightly to use, diligently to cultivate, and hand down in undimmed brightness to those who shall follow after. We thank Thee for the excellent men and women raised up and employed by Thee in the great work Thou hast done for us. Help us to honor their memory, by cultivating their spirit, copying their example, and faithfully carrying forward the work they have left in our care. And now, kindly vouchsafe to favor all the exercises of this memorial occasion. Let nothing mar ; make everything contribute to the desired success. May impressions be made, healthful and lasting, a perennial fountain, sending forth an unfailling stream to gladden and refresh this, our heritage, not only throughout another century, but until time itself shall be no more. These favors, with every other needed blessing, grant for Jesus' sake, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be all glory, honor, might and dominion, now and evermore. Amen."

At the conclusion of the prayer, Joseph Fornance, Esq., President of the Centennial Association, said :

"The idea of celebrating the Montgomery County centennial started in the Historical Society of Montgomery County. They appointed a committee for that purpose, composed of citizens from the various districts of the county. That committee met, organized, called itself the Centennial Association of Montgomery County, and got to work. I am here as President of that committee, and it is my duty to call this assemblage to order, and to preside over its exercises. In working up the cause, at first

we met with little encouragement ; but as the anniversary day approached, interest was aroused, and the people of the county responded nobly. They needed but a little stirring up to show that they were full of patriotism.

"Yesterday, on behalf of the Centennial Association of Montgomery County, I sent a telegram to Franklin County, congratulating it on reaching its one hundredth birthday. I have received this telegram in answer to it :

" 'CHAMBERSBURG, PA., Sept. 9, 1884—1.23 P.M.

" 'To the Centennial Association of Montgomery County :

" 'Franklin County returns the salutation of her twin sister, Montgomery County. Recalls with pride the triumphs of the past. Rejoices in the present prosperity of all, and enters upon a second century with gratitude and hope.

" 'BENJ. CHAMBERS, *Chairman.*"

The "Centennial Hymn," written by John G. Whittier, was sung by the chorus, accompanied by the orchestra.

Mr. Wm. J. Buck delivered the following

HISTORICAL ORATION.

"It is well in the flight of time to have occasion to pause and review the events that have transpired around us ; to know whether, on the whole, we have advanced or retrograded as concerns the general welfare ; in what respect, if any, we have really progressed ; and that the changes going on be pointed out, that comparisons may be instituted and deductions drawn as to the results. This is the philosophical aim of history, and, if justly carried out, when made known to a thinking people, cannot fail but exert a beneficial influence. Time will not pause a single moment, and no people can remain stationary. Change, greater or less, is a law in nature to which all that has life must submit. It behooves us then to guard that it be for the better. This gathering is no ordinary one—a centennial, because one hundred years ago this county was formed ; a bi-centennial, because two hundred years have elapsed since its first settlement. In less than half an hour's time allotted, where shall I begin, and what shall be omitted ? Hence, forbearance is expected on much that cannot even be alluded to, relating to the long period that has elapsed.

"The first knowledge of our territory by Europeans must have been gained through the prosecution of the beaver trade on the Schuylkill, and along which they had erected several forts. The Upland Court Records mention, in 1677, Beaver island, on this river, which may have been the present Barbadoes island, or one of those in Lower Merion. In the pursuit of this traffic, either by the Indians, Dutch and Swedes, the canoe must have been their chief dependence in travel and conveying freight. But in this project they were only actuated by a love for gain, and but little for the progress or development of the country ; hence their easy conquest by the English. A map was published in London in 1698, which has been faithfully reproduced, and will appear in the forthcoming history of the county, that represents, at that early date, the Schuylkill from its mouth up as far as about the present city of Reading, or fully one-third its entire length, with the Wissahickon, Perkiomen, and the Manatawny, and all their leading tributaries, with accuracy, clearly demonstrating that at that time the present territory of Montgomery must have been pretty well explored.

"The date of settlement by the Welsh, English and Germans was very close in this county ; indeed, so close with the two former, that the matter by further research may be contested. Hence the important question, Who was the first European that permanently settled on our soil, sustained by original records ? As the case now stands, that honor belongs to the Welsh. These people, before the arrival of Penn, had purchased from him forty thousand acres of land, which was subsequently located in Merion, Haverford, Goshen, and several adjoining townships. How

much of it was located in the present Upper and Lower Merion is not known, but no doubt it embraced considerably over half their area. Under this encouragement, the ship 'Lyon,' John Compton, master, arrived with forty passengers in the Schuylkill river August 13, 1682, almost two months preceding Penn's arrival, on board of which was Edward Jones, with his family, who, on the following 26th, sent a letter to Wales, wherein he states: 'The Indians brought venison to our door for sixpence ye quarter. There are stones to be had enough at the Falls of Skoolkill—that is where we are to settle, and water power enough for mills; but thou must bring mill stones and the irons that belong to it, for smiths are dear.' We have the authority of John Hill's map of the environs of Philadelphia, published in 1809, that the aforesaid made 'the first British settlement, 18th of Sixth-month, 1682,' which is only five days after his arrival in the Schuylkill. The place designated thereon is now the estate of his descendant, the late Col. Owen Jones, near the present Libertyville; and is certainly an early claim, for Philadelphia had not then been founded.

"This will now direct us to the Welsh, a people descended from the ancient Britons, possessing their own language and peculiar characteristics. Dr. Thomas Wynne arrived with his family in the following November on the 'Welcome,' with William Penn. He settled beside his son-in-law, Edward Jones, whence has originated the name Wynnewood. John Roberts came in 1683, and settled near the present Pencoyd, which has received its name from the place of his nativity. In the list of 1734, fifty-two taxables are mentioned in Lower Merion, of which forty-four are Welsh and four English; in Upper Merion, for said date, of thirty-two, twenty-two are Welsh and one English; in Gwynedd, of forty-eight, thirty-nine are Welsh and six English; in Towamencin, eight are Welsh and three English; in Horsham, five are Welsh and four English; in Plymouth, eight are Welsh and six English; in Montgomery, of twenty-nine, twenty-two are Welsh; in Norriton, seven are Welsh and six English. Thomas Evans and William Jones purchased seven thousand eight hundred and twenty acres in Gwynedd, in the beginning of 1698, and were soon joined by Cadwallader, Owen and Robert Evans, Hugh Griffith, Ellis David, Robert Jones, Edward Foulke, John Hugh, and John Humphrey. In 1700 they erected a small log building for worship. Owing to an influx of settlers, a large stone building was erected in 1712. The subscription paper was written in Welsh, to which was affixed sixty-six names. A petition from the residents of Gwynedd for a road to Philadelphia, in June, 1704, states that they then numbered thirty families.

"Before 1720, John Evans, William James, Thomas James, Josiah James, James Lewis, Edward Williams, and James Davis, had settled in Montgomery township, in which year they built there a Baptist church, in which preaching in the Welsh language was maintained down to the Revolution. According to a well-known tradition, the early Welsh settlers sought out in preference, the lands in Gwynedd and Montgomery, because they were not near so heavily timbered as in the townships below, and would, therefore, in its removal, require so much less labor to bring the same under cultivation; not imagining, in consequence, its much greater productiveness. Before 1703, David Meredith, Thomas Owen, Isaac Price, Ellis Pugh, and Hugh Jones, all from Wales, settled in Plymouth. The Welsh Friends built in Lower Merion, in 1695, the first house of worship erected in the county. The Rev. Malachi Jones, from Wales, organized the first Presbyterian congregation at Abington, in 1714. According to the list of 1734, the Welsh at that date exceeded the English decidedly in population. Out of a total of seven hundred and sixty names, the former numbered one hundred and eighty-one and the latter one hundred and sixty-three. Necessity at first compelled the Welsh, the English and the Germans to form settlements by themselves, owing to a general ignorance of each other's languages, which, of course for a long time, must have greatly interfered in their social intercourse.

The Welsh, for the first half century, came in and settled here pretty extensively, for in 1734 they formed nearly one-fourth of the entire population; but with the cessation of religious persecution at home, ceased coming, which is one reason of their having since so diminished.

"The next settlement most probably was made by the English in Cheltenham. There is no doubt but what this township received its name through Toby Leech, one of the earliest settlers and land-holders there. On his tomb-stone, at Oxford Church, is found this extract, that he 'came from Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England, in 1682,' which is a matter of confirmation. There is reason to believe that there is no district in the county that was named earlier than this, or had earlier surveys made to purchasers. In evidence, we know from the records that Thomas Fairman, on the 1st of Seventh Month, 1683, surveyed, for Patrick Robinson, two hundred acres, adjoining Richard Wall, by Tacony Creek, which states that 'this tract of land is in the parish of Cheltenham.' From the aforesaid we learn that Richard Wall's purchase had been made still earlier, and was located in the vicinity of the present Shoemakertown. The latter was also from Gloucestershire, and we know John Day, William Brown, Everard Bolton, John Ashmead, John Russell, and Joseph Mather, were also early settlers here from England. John Hallowell, John Barnes and Joseph Phipps had settled in Abington before 1697. Nicholas More, a physician from London, arrived soon after William Penn, in 1682, and had conveyed to him by patent, 7th of Sixth Month, 1684, the manor of Moreland, containing nine thousand eight hundred and fifteen acres. About 1685 he commenced thereon the erection of buildings, where he lived and died, calling the place Green Spring. Jasper Farmar, by patent, January 31, 1683, took up, in two tracts, five thousand acres of land. His widow, Mary Farmar, settled thereon, with the family, in the fall of 1685, and it was the first settlement in Whitemarsh. Edward Farmar, on the death of his mother, about the close of 1686, became the owner of three-fourths of the original purchase. He became a noted man, interpreter of the Indians, and before 1713 built a grist-mill on the Wissahickon. About 1685 Plymouth was originally purchased and settled by James Fox, Richard Grove, Francis Rawle and John Chelson, all from Plymouth, in Devonshire, but who afterwards removed to Philadelphia, John Barnes, who had purchased in 1684, two hundred and fifty acres in Abington, and settled there, by will, in 1697, vested in the trustees of Abington Meeting, one hundred and twenty acres, for the use of the same and for a school house. This was, no doubt, the first donation for educational purposes within the present limits of the county, if not among the first in Pennsylvania. Thomas Palmer and Thomas Iredell were among the earliest settlers in Horsham. Edward Lane and Joseph Richardson settled in Providence in 1701, and the former built a mill in the vicinity of Collegeville in 1708. Henry Pawling came from Buckinghamshire, and was also an early settler in Providence. To the English belongs the honor of having burnt the first lime from lime-stone, in Pennsylvania.

"Nicholas More, in a letter to William Penn, in England, dated September 13, 1686, states that 'Madame Farmar has found as good lime-stone as any in the world, and is building with it. She offers to sell ten thousand bushels at six pence the bushel, upon her plantation.' Thomas Fitzwater carried on the burning of lime before 1705, at the present Fitzwatertown. Oldmixon mentions lime burning in Upper Merion before 1708.

"We will now take up the most English townships, as settled in 1734, to compare with the Welsh. Abington had twenty-four English and thirteen Welsh; Cheltenham, eleven English and six Welsh; Moreland, forty-seven English and seven Welsh; Whitemarsh, twenty-three English and nine Welsh; Upper Dublin, fifteen English and five Welsh; Springfield, nine English and no Welsh. It will be perceived that even

in the most English settled townships, with one exception, the Welsh possessed some strength. The English built Abington Friends' Meeting-house in 1697; at Hortham, 1721; at Providence, 1730, and at Pottstown, 1753; St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, in Whitemarsh, about 1710, and St. James', in Providence, in 1721.

"According to the list of 1734, out of a total of seven hundred and sixty names, three hundred and ninety-five were already Germans, and can be regarded as the original settlers of over half the territory in the county. In less than a year from the landing of Penn, a colony of Germans, chiefly from Creyfelt, arrived in October, 1683, and shortly afterwards founded the village of Germantown. The Proprietary had been among them in their native land, and encouraged them to come. Here, liberty of conscience had been proclaimed, and an exemption from tithes; though neither was tolerated in Great Britain, or, even to a very limited extent, along the valley of the Rhine, where also were the frontier lines of powerful France, and the frequent wars of Germany; the results of which combined, were strong incentives to emigration to those more peacefully and liberally disposed. To facilitate this, a company was organized at Frankfort-on-the-Main, and numerous pamphlets circulated throughout Germany, in the language of its people, setting forth the peculiar advantages of the distant colony. Hence, it need not be a wonder that the weaker of the persecuted sects were disposed to come first, for no matter how strong the attachments of nativity, the fatherland presented, from their experience in the past, no bright or sanguine future. The doctrines of the Reformation had now been established almost a century and a half; yet, through the connection of church and state, progress to toleration was very slow.

"A majority of the earliest Germans were members of the Society of Friends, and they had not been in Pennsylvania five years, before they were shocked at the system of negro slavery that prevailed, and was maintained and continued by the English colonists. The result was a protest on the subject, dated at Germantown, 18th of Second-month, 1688. As this was the first document ever issued in English-America against the iniquitous system, it demands for these people some credit. Concerning themselves as a body, and to whom it was alone directed, the Friends did not approach it until the long period of three-quarters of a century had elapsed, through the excitement brought about at the dawn of the Revolution by the passage of the Stamp Act, as to the rights of mankind. The start, however, made by these Germans, was so powerful in its effects on their countrymen, the Mennonites, Dunkards, and all of their other sects, as to cause them to abstain almost entirely from holding negroes or Indians in bondage; and hence the great exemption, from an early period, of the present territory of Montgomery County from the evils arising from African slavery.

"Mathias Van Bebber purchased a tract of six thousand one hundred and sixty-six acres of land, which, by patent dated February 22, 1702, was located on the Skippack creek, constituting about one-half of the southern portion of what is now Perkiomen township. He began thus early, for so remote a distance from the city, to invite settlement by selling it off in parcels. Among the settlers prior to the close of 1703 were Henry Pennepacker, John Kuster, John Umstat, Claus Jansen, and John Frey; John Jacobs in 1704; Edward Beer, Gerhard and Herman Indehoffin, and Dirck and William Renberg before the close of 1707. In 1708 we find here William and Cornelius Dewees, Herman Kuster, Christopher Zimmerman, John Scholl, and Daniel Desmond, followed, in 1709, by Jacob, John and Martin Kolb and John Strayer. The settlement so increased that Van Bebber gave one hundred acres towards a Mennonite meeting-house, which was built prior to 1726. Henry Frey, or Fry, who settled in this vicinity, is stated to have arrived in the colony two years before the landing of Penn. But even prior to the Skippack settlement, it is known that some of the German settlers located themselves in some of the

lower townships, as, for instance, Cheltenham, Springfield, Whitemarsh, Abington, Moreland, Upper Dublin, and Hortham. For the Shoemakers, Tysons, Snyders, Clines, Ottingers, Cleavers, Redwitzers, Rinkers, Bartlettas, Melchers, Leverings, Reiffs, Conrads, Lukenses, and Yerkoses, were located pretty early there, as substantial land-holders. The Germans were the original settlers of Perkiomen, Towamencin, Upper Salford, Lower Salford, Hatfield, Franconia, Frederick, Marlborough, New Hanover, Upper Hanover, and Douglass, and contend almost with the English in the settlement of Cheltenham, Springfield, and Upper Dublin.

"The Frankfort Land Company purchased twenty-two thousand three hundred and seventy-seven acres, that chiefly lay in New Hanover and adjoining townships. John Henry Sproggell purchased a tract of six hundred and thirty acres, adjoining the present borough of Pottstown, upon which he settled before 1709, and consequently among the first in that section. Isaac Schaeffer was a settler and a considerable landholder in Plymouth in 1702. Jacob Schrack settled in Providence in 1717; John Frederick Hillegass in Upper Hanover in 1727; and Elias Long, John George Gankler, John Henry Beer, George John Welker, and John Martin Dert, in Salford and vicinity, before 1728. Justus Falkner had a Lutheran congregation organized in New Hanover in 1703. A church was built in Upper Providence in 1743, in Upper Dublin in 1754, at Barren Hill in 1761, St. John's, Whitpain, and St. Paul's, Lower Merion, in 1769. The German Reformed had congregations at Whitemarsh, Skippack, Salford, and New Hanover, at which John Philip Boehm preached before 1727. A church was built at Whitpain in 1740, and in Worcester in 1770. The Mennonites had houses of worship erected in Perkiomen in 1726, in Lower Salford in 1741, and in Towamencin in 1750. The Schwenkfelders arrived here in 1734 and 1740, and the Dunkards still earlier, and had organized congregations. The census of 1870 gives the county one hundred and forty-four houses of worship. Of this number the exclusive German sects had sixty-eight, only four less than half, as follows; Lutheran, twenty-five; German Reformed, ten; Mennonite, ten; Dunkards, nine; Evangelical Association, nine; and Schwenkfelders, five. Of the balance, it is estimated that at least one-fourth may be allowed the German element, which will make two-thirds of the total number, which is about their present proportion of the population.

"Although the Swedes had settled near the mouth of the Schuylkill in 1642, and four years later erected a church there, yet no evidence exists of their having settled early within this county. It has been recently ascertained that Peter Cox had made a purchase of land in Upper Merion before 1702, and that Gunner Rambo, in said year, had endeavored to secure a tract beside him. However, there is no doubt that the latter, with Peter Rambo, Peter Yocum and Mats Holstein, had settled on their purchases here previous to 1714. John Matson, it is probable, did not settle here till considerably later, as his name is not on the list of 1734. At Morlatton, beside the Schuylkill, in the present Berks County, several had settled before 1716. We find in Upper Merion, in 1734, the names of Mounce Rambo, John Rambo, Gabriel Rambo, Elias Rambo, Mats Holstein, and Peter Yocum. The Swedes had a partiality to the Schuylkill, and were skilled in its navigation with the canoe, transporting themselves and their produce by this means to mill, to church, and market. We even ascertain that to their weddings and funerals they were also frequently thus conveyed. It is known that some of their canoes, in 1732, carried from Morlatton as much as one hundred and forty bushels of wheat to Philadelphia. The Swedes were a pious people, who lived along the valley of the Delaware, in peaceable relations with the Indians, for forty years before the arrival of William Penn. One matter concerning the Swedes is remarkable. Although their writers have left us most excellent books on the country, yet there are no accounts of early explorations up or along the Schuylkill. Indeed, they do not appear to have been

an exploring people, leaving that to the English and the Dutch, and among Germans, to such fearless and adventurous spirits as Conrad Weiser, and the devoted missionaries, Zeisberger, Tyrleau, Schmick, and Heckewelder.

"The Scotch-Irish did not settle here early. To our surprise, in the list of 1734, only some sixteen or seventeen names can be ascertained, chiefly in the townships of Norriton, Whitpain, and vicinity. The Porters, Knoxes, Todds, and Burneses, must have come in later. The influx of Irish into this county was small previous to 1824, but since has greatly increased, especially along the valley of the Schuylkill, where manufacturing interests prevail. The Scotch-Irish and the Irish materially contributed to the strength of the army during the Revolution. Andrew Porter's company of artillery was largely made up of the former, and Col. Stephen Moylan's cavalry regiment of the latter.

"The Revolution could not pass by without the people in this county contributing thereto, and bearing their share of its trials and sufferings. Concerned from the very beginning, we had such men as Gen. Peter Muhlenberg, Col. Samuel Miles, Col. Robert Loller, Col. John Bull, Col. Andrew Porter, Col. Christopher Stuart, Col. Archibald Thompson, Charles Thompson, David Rittenhouse, Frederick Antes, and the patriotic Hiester family, of Upper Salford, as well as many more, who did much to aid the cause. The events of Whitemarsh, Barren Hill, Valley Forge, and the Crooked Billet, transpired on our soil, and all that precedes and follows the battle of Germantown. Within these limits, during the memorable struggle, Washington and his army remained nine months, lacking five days, very probably a longer time than was spent in any other county during this period. The several houses used as his headquarters are still standing, and the remains of entrenchments, thrown up on our hill sides, can be traced to this day.

"After an arduous struggle, the Revolution at last came to a close, and the country achieved its independence, and on September 3, 1783, a definite treaty was signed with Great Britain. Peace, happy peace, now reigned within our borders, and industry soon brought returning prosperity to the long-neglected fields and work-shops. Above all, confidence was now restored, and the laborer was secure in his reward. Up to this period, all the territory at present in the county was comprised in that of Philadelphia, which, from the increase in population, required many in attending to county affairs, to go a considerable distance, at a great inconvenience; and, in consequence, petitions were gotten up and numerous signed, praying for the erection of a new county. These were considered and acted upon by the Legislature, and a law passed September 10, 1784, 'for erecting part of the County of Philadelphia into a separate county.' Thus did the present County of Montgomery, rich and populous as it now is, spring into origin one hundred years ago.

"In this brief and hasty survey of our progress, it is well to glance at what Montgomery County was a century ago. It then comprised twenty-eight townships, with a population of about twenty thousand inhabitants. The first assessment, for 1785, returned four thousand three hundred and sixty taxables, eighty bound servants, one hundred and eight negro slaves, ninety-four grist mills, forty nine saw mills, five oil mills, nine distilleries, nine paper mills, thirty-one tanneries, ten fulling mills, four hemp mills, fifty-three riding chairs or gigs, and six phaetons. At this time, though a century had elapsed since the first settlement, there was not a turnpike, no post office, no newspaper, no poor house, no canal, and no academy, or even a secondary school, in the county. No bridge had been erected over the Schuylkill, or any of our larger streams; but, instead, they had to be crossed either at fords or ferries. Not a town or a village within its entire area that at this time contained thirty-five houses. One public library alone, at Hatboro', founded in 1755, for which the books had to be imported from London, at this date contained five hundred and fifty volumes. Only two stage

lines had been established; one from Bethlehem to Philadelphia, started in 1763; the other from Reading, through Pottstown, to the city, in 1781, by William Coleman. Each made but one weekly trip. The churches numbered about thirty-five, of which the Friends had seven; the Episcopalians, including Swedes' Church, three; Presbyterians, three; Baptists, one; Methodists, one; and the twenty remaining churches belonged to several German denominations, showing that the latter had now become pretty numerous in population.

"From the above statement, we are led to consider as to what Montgomery county is to-day, though with only four hundred and fifty square miles of territory. In population and resources, without Philadelphia, it is the sixth county in the State, being only exceeded by Allegheny, Luzerne, Lancaster, Schuylkill, and Berks. It now possesses thirty townships, twelve boroughs, sixty-five election districts, one hundred and eighteen post offices, two hundred miles of turnpike, one hundred and sixty-six miles of railroad, with considerably over one hundred stations. Fourteen bridges span the Schuylkill, all built in less than three-fourths of a century. To strangers it should be mentioned, that the noble building in which the antiquarian exposition is held, was built from our own marble, lime and iron, procured within a few miles of its site. Of the numerous manufactories, educational establishments, charitable institutions, and various improvements that abound, only an allusion can be made. We have in this goodly heritage of our forefathers two hundred and four inhabitants to the square mile, while, according to the latest statistics, Scotland, Denmark and Portugal, average but very little over half this number; Austria and Hungary have one hundred and forty-four; Bavaria, one hundred and seventy-four; and France one hundred and eighty-three. The township of Cheltenham, without any large villages, contains three hundred and ninety inhabitants to the square mile, approaching the most thickly settled countries. Such are our wonderful resources, and the general happiness of our people, that we cannot realize that we are densely peopled, which, in other and much older countries, has so long been associated with wretchedness, and, as they would have, arising from an inability to secure a sufficiency of food. What a subject is here for the people of Europe to ponder on. Taken collectively, and considering the progress we have made since our first settlement, how eventually, and at no great distance of time, we must surpass in population and resources, not only the very best portions of Europe, but perhaps every country on the face of the globe.

"Within the small area of Montgomery county have lived and died distinguished persons. A Major General of the Revolutionary army, a Speaker of the first Congress of 1789, and three Governors of Pennsylvania, were born here. Among the distinguished dead may be mentioned Nicholas Scull, John Lukens, Robert Loller, Nathaniel B. Boileau, Isaiah Lukens, Samuel and John Gummere, Benjamin Hallowell, Job Roberts, Henry Funk, Henry Ernst Muhlenberg, Charles Philip Krauth, John and Daniel Hiester, Andrew Porter, John Bull, Frederick Antes, Henry Scheetz, William R. Smith, Jonathan Roberts, William Potts Dewees, William Cullum, David R. Porter, Francis R. Shunk, Joseph Foulke, and Alan W. Corson. They were also born here. Among our distinguished residents we can mention Charles Thomson, H. M. Muhlenberg, Samuel Miles, Sir William Keith, Thomas Græme, Elizabeth Furguson, Rowland Ellis, Christopher Dock, David Rittenhouse, John J. Audubon, Jacob Taylor, Benjamin Lay, Bird Wilson, Arthur St. Clair, and Lucretia Mott. Having no desire to be invidious, the distinguished living I shall pass by. But it is enough to say that in all the varied pursuits of life in which we find them, whether it is in mechanical skill and invention, in agriculture, in the learned professions, or in any of the prevailing arts and sciences, they have talent to do us credit. Montgomery county has furnished gallant officers and men, not only in the Revolution,

but in the war of 1812 and with Mexico. To the late rebellion it furnished its share again, and a monument in the neighboring square contains the names of five hundred and forty-seven, that gave their lives in the terrible struggle that the Union of our forefathers might still be preserved and perpetuated. This goes to show a people eminently self-sacrificing and patriotic.

"In conclusion, a few words more for our honored county. In the long course now of two centuries, not an instance can be found that a white man or an Indian had here shed each other's blood. Mobs have never here prevailed, the most violent reformers have had their way, and no churches or other buildings have been destroyed under such temporary excitement. Though peopled by the English, Welsh, Germans, Swedes and Irish, speaking various languages, and holding different religious and political views, they resolved to live here peacefully with each other, while they diligently labored to improve their possessions, till they have become as we now behold and enjoy them at this day. Let, then, the celebration of this centennial be regarded as a deserving memorial and honor due to those, who have so long preceded us, and whom we should endeavor to follow in every good example."

"Festive Hymn" was rendered by the chorus.

Mr. Geo. N. Corson read the following

POEM.

"Backward through the tide of time we gaze
This morning upon the dawning days
Of our town and county, to thank God
That our transatlantic fathers trod
These bosky shores, to establish homes
In the valley where the Schuylkill roams,
The Perkiomen and the Skippack sweep,
Gulf and Valley creeks their vigils keep
In the deep gulch and the deeper gorge
Of the sacred shades of Valley Forge!
Where Wissahickon winding invites
True lovers to scenes of rare delights,
Where Mingo, Macoby and the Spack,
Manatawny and the Pennypack,
The Swamp creek and Tacony travel
On sylvan beds of sand and gravel;
Where the Sanatoga springs do sink
In the Schuylkill with the Arrowmink;
And where Stony creek comes romping down
A life-preserver to Norristown.

"Our fathers surely were wiser men
Than we are, for they were nearer Penn,
And not afraid to make a nation,
Found a State, or excite creation
With a creed engrossed upon a scroll
That gave liberty to man and soul;
To carve a county from an old one,
Build a borough, aye, and a bold one,
From a village straggling up and down—
Make a county-seat of Norristown.
Our people, now, more is the pity.
Afraid to make the town a city,
Would waddle back, for fear of taxes,
To tomahawks and battle-axes.
We are proud of our sires, those great men
Who made the new Republic just when
The King was strongest and his power
Felt in every clime, and every hour

There was somewhere the gleam of the sun
Ne'er setting on realms he ruled upon!
But are prouder far, if that can be,
Of our fathers born this side the sea,
Who fled not from oppression, but here
Their own own sires' memories to revere,
Their fame extend and their will obey,
Just one hundred years ago to-day
Carved a county below and above
Out of the loins of Brotherly Love!
And such a county, from such a race!
By the chance of birth with Heaven's grace
We sons enjoy these vales and rivers
So blessed by gift and by the givers;
A double heritage more precious
Than thrones and crowns to Princes specious.
For here is freedom, and here each man
May contemplate the Creator's plan,
Worship under his own vine and tree,
Write, vote, speak and think and still be free
One hundred thousand people make this
A county, to-day where plenty is!
Where fruitful fields and exhaustless mines,
Factories and schools and fruits and vines,
The purest water and richest ground
And all things we need on earth abound.
If we have no seas, no lakes, no ocean,
Neither have we wrecks or commotion
Of the tornadoes! We need no dykes
Nor levies to bar the tide that strikes
The rock-ribbed and shaded banks and shores
Of each beautiful streamlet that pours
Into the vast sea inviolate
The waters from lands they irrigate!
Content with wheat, corn, rye and grasses,
Good men and women, boys and lasses,
With products for the proudest table
And horses for the richest stable,
With farms far-famed, well-tilled, prolific,
Homes of plenty and more pacific,
We grow and live on these hills and plains
Well satisfied with our modest gains;
With our mines of iron, marble, lime,
With fruitage and food of every clime,
With all birds, fowls, fishes, sheep and kine
And porcine mastodons just as fine;
And bless the parents that gave us birth
On this favored spot of mother earth,
Where schools are free, and the air serene;
Where summer's harvest and winter's sheer
Fill the garners and bless the yeomen
Along the Schuylkill, the Perkiomen,
And through all the bounds of the bounty
Bestowed by Montgomery County.

"The changes wrought the century past
Not all for good, or destined to last,
Have yet been smaller, it is believed,
In what is lost than in that achieved.
Tho' magnified by the common mind,
These changes have left their mark behind.

The stage-coach has given way to cars
 Now pulled by engines on iron bars,
 And in the canals and on the seas
 Boats pushed by steam ply with eel-like ease,
 As moved by the unseen hand that rules.
 And usurp the place of sails and mules.
 It would have made our forefathers laugh
 To have seen the talking telegraph,
 And would have transformed their flesh to stone
 To have heard the laugh by telephone.
 And surely they would have fled the land
 And left to the Indians, contraband,
 Their plows and yokes and scythes and sickles
 Could they have seen how the bicycles,
 Made of spinning-wheels turned upside down,
 Are ridden by men through Norristown !
 Poor spinning-wheels, pig-yokes, grain-cradles,
 Flax-brakes, drag-rakes, and wooden ladies,
 Where are you ? Oh ! dames and men of yore,
 Down the corridors of time, before,
 Could you have cast prophetic glances,
 You would have leaped at these advances !
 To have seen us spinning and weaving,
 Plowing and harvesting and sheaving,
 Threshing, milling, printing and preaching,
 Aye, it is true, preaching and teaching ;
 Do our washing, and churning of cream,
 And e'en hatching our chickens, by steam !
 But our crops, our eggs, our clothes, our fur,
 Are not better than our fathers' were.
 Their houses were just as large and fine,
 And stronger with oak than ours with pine ;
 Their coats and jackets of sterner stuff
 Than our shoddy, with half wool enough,
 Made by modern machines for sewing
 Pretty seams, that part with our growing.
 The ancients—says St. John—had a coat
 Without seam and woven to the throat ;
 But this priceless suit has gone beneath,
 With the harrows of the wooden teeth.
 So, we lose in clothes, in iron gain,
 Make progress here with the hand and brain,
 And there in more ancient honored parts
 Pine with Phillips over the Lost Arts.
 In the wars of "twelve" and "forty-eight,"
 As in the Rebellion, torn of hate,
 In eighteen hundred and sixty-one,
 Our men in valor were ne'er outdone ;
 But on all the fields famed in story
 Won laurels for their deeds of glory,
 Were true to man and State and nation,
 True to that cause of toleration,
 Broad based in every institution
 By our laws and the Constitution.
 Pennsylvania ! We praise thee, because
 Thou art mother of peace, equal laws,
 Justice, equality among men,
 Freedom of conscience from denizen
 Or dynasty, priest, Pope or preacher ;
 Mother of love to every creature
 To which creation has given life

And bidding-place in this world of strife ;
 Mother of pure charity, and truth,
 Of wisdom to eldest age and youth ;
 And through thee, thou gracious parent State,
 Two hundred years have enhanced the fate
 Of millions of our race and nation ;
 A century of growth and station,
 Prosperity, happiness, renown,
 To our county and our county town ;
 And on the escutcheon of the world,
 Thou hast to man everywhere unfurled
 Those VAST WORDS OF HOPE, immortal hence,

VIRTUE, LIBERTY, INDEPENDENCE !!"

The poem was followed by the "Hallelujah Chorus," effectively rendered by the vocalists accompanied by the orchestra.

Dr. C. Z. Weiser delivered the following

ORATION.

"*Fellow-Citizens*—The life of man is measured by the flight of years ; the history of a province by the revolution of centuries ; the course of the world, by the cycle of the ages ; and the ages of eternity, by the Creator Himself.

"Montgomery County completes its primal round of one hundred years to-day. Like a century plant, our proud shire opens into bloom with a sound and a savor loud enough to fill the domain with a bracing melody and a pleasant flavor ; drawing to its centre the masses from rural and from urban quarters, from thirty townships and twelve boroughs, like a magnet of great power. And beyond its borders, too, the music and the odor float.

"Our twice venerable and bi-centennial neighbors, Philadelphia, Chester, and Bucks (1682), like the three ancient Graces, discern the echo, and are with us to taste of the 'feast of reason and the flow of soul.'

"The senior counties, Lancaster (1729), York (1749), Cumberland (1750) Berks and Northampton (1752), Bedford (1771), Northumberland (1772), Westmoreland (1773), Washington (1781), Fayette (1783)—all are glad to hail Montgomery into the mystic guild of the centenarians.

"Our twin sister, Franklin (1784,) crosses the line with the province of Montgomery, arm-in-arm.

"The junior counties are happy as well as their elder sister's majority, and speed her on with cheering words, that their own period of adolescence may grow speedily and beautifully less, when they, too, may wear the manly toga. Peers and compeers, you are welcome.

"So live and so general an *esprit du corps*, pervading the Commonwealth, renders it all the better to be here, and helps to swell Montgomery's jubilee to real grand proportions. Our proud shire is of age ; has one hundred thousand inhabitants, five hundred thousand acres, and five hundred square miles of territory—old enough, and large enough, and rich enough, to rejoice alone. But it is 'not good to be alone,' especially on a festive occasion. Mankind is mankinded. Not only misery loves company, but joy as well. It is written on the big heart of humanity : 'Whether one member suffers, all the members suffers with it ; if one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it.' That is St. Paul's commentary on the legend inscribed on our national escutcheon—E PLURIBUS UNUM.

"Inasmuch, however, as it is meet and right to inquire into the reason of things, as far as mortals may, let us here now ask, What means this gala day ?

"A sweet American singer tells us in flowing rhyme to 'bury the dead past.' But surely this is not Montgomery's funeral ! It were a lively corpse, indeed. It is an Eastertide. Some unseen power has touched the dry bones of its hills and dales, breathed upon them, and wrought

the miracles of a resurrection. What an aroma collects around and diffuses from the shades and handiwork of our ancestors! Norristown is filled with shrines, as Athens once stood filled with altars and with gods. Our goodly-disposed citizens are down on their knees, worshiping relics. Who does not pass by the new, the fresh, and the green, to tarry by the ancient, the gray-haired, and confess that 'the old is better'?

"But why is this great post-mortem? Why this grand review of the dead? Why this mania for the vanished century?

"Is it not a phenomenon, worth our study, that we should be so anxious to place our eyes in the back of our heads, just now? That we should, so simultaneously and unanimously, turn from the rising to the setting sun? That we should, one and all, slight the glorious future and the prolific present, to revere alone the 'dead past'?

"This is the Sphinx that sits by the roadside, mutely challenging each one: 'Solve me or die!'

"The answers vary even as the souls of men. 'Many men of many minds.' A conventional holiday will it prove to some. 'Only this and nothing more.' As the falls of Niagara suggest a goodly site to plant a mill, or the leaning tower at Pisa, to build a derrick, so, too, can these men see but an occasion to 'eat and drink and die' in a centennial jubilee. Let us preserve a 'boisterous silence' in the presence of souls so radically utilitarian or epicurean!

"But is it not an event celebrated in honor of a departed ancestry? That were a healthy motive, indeed. No son or society is on a wrong road so long as a sentiment so filial animates the bosom. Age is honorable.

"Nevertheless, Montgomery's jubilee must be rested on a firmer base than a mere sentiment affords, be that never so noble. Otherwise, certain perplexing queries might be propounded.

"The thoughtful do not believe that 'a little spark may kindle a great fire' unless a vast heap of combustibles is at hand. The occasion is not the cause of a great conflagration. And he that argues our jubilee on the basis of a sheer sentimentality, would place the stream far above its source. We make bold to declare that the centennial jubilee of Montgomery County does not rest as the 'baseless fabric of an airy vision.' Young America, least of all, will content itself with a ground so narrow. A class so progressive will cry out: 'In honor of a departed ancestry! Why must the fathers and mothers be so loudly lauded? What is it that entitles them to such a glorification? An unsophisticated race!'

"Our ancestry's record does seem very meagre aside of the prolific catalogue of to-day, and almost justifies such a disparagement. They never built an engine; they never launched a steamboat; they never surveyed a railroad; they never saw a telegraph, they never whispered in a telephone; they never rode a reaper; they never ran a sewing machine; they never walked in electric light.

"They never uttered the term 'protoplasm' or 'evolution.' They never heard of the 'survival of the fittest.' They believed in Adam as the progenitor of the human race. They despised the ape. They ate oysters without discerning the blood of their sires within!

"Does not that golden-mouthed but blear-eyed orator boldly declare: 'This world was not worth living in fifty years ago'?

"Under such a strong indictment, the less we talk of the wisdom of the fathers, the better; unless we may cast a more invulnerable coat of mail and build a more impregnable wall around them. What shall be the argument, then, by which the citizens of Montgomery County may successfully defend and maintain the propriety of their Centennial Jubilee?

"I will answer. I will tell you:—

"The jubilee instinct in mankind is the reasonable and satisfactory base on which every memorial act, either of an individual or social nature, finds room enough to stand."

"On this broad and lasting foundation, the countless apotheoses of the world may withstand the assaults of the wise and of the foolish. This is a chief corner-stone on which men have ever built their memorial temples; not of 'hay, straw and stubble,' either, but of gold, silver and precious stones.'

"To undertake to account for this disposition in man, is to enter the wide sphere of psychology, and tell why man is what he is. A theme too large and heavy to carry on a holiday!

"To canonize consummated facts of by-gone ages, is an instinct of the race which ever did and ever will continue to come to the surface of human society among all nations, and at all the stages of the world's march. To deny this proposition is to antagonize history. The memory of man does not know of a time, or a people, that did not grace itself with monumental deeds and memorial seasons. In the wake of the primal Sabbath of God, when the miracle of creation was first commemorated, festival days and jubilee songs bloomed along and flavored the great highway of time. The Orient, the Middle Ages, and Modern Ages, all voice this race instinct. Account for it as we may, we dare not ignore the fact.

"Nor are these commemorative demonstrations to be regarded as frozen mausoleums, erected over dead and buried dust. They, like the singing Mennon, utter psalms, not requiem hymns. They are the incarnation of mankind's creed in an immortality. They are monuments, not mounds. They are both proofs and prophecies of man's sense of an everlasting life. It is history's way of protesting against a final nihilism. Rightly interpreted, that is what all the Bethel stones and Ebenezer altars declare, all along the track the race has broken. That is the language of pyramids, pillars and statues. With two faces, as it were, they look into the Past and Future, and tell us of the 'Golden Age' that was, and of the 'Good time coming.'

"Tombs and epitaphs weary mortals ever crave at the end of their journey, cold and frigid as they seem. Like faithful sentinels, those white, sepulchral stones mark the graves of men. Even 'merry England' grants an 'initial letter' over the grave of her Newgate felon. And even through the blazing ages of cremation an urn is used.

"And so, too, does the nation and the race erect its countless 'In Memoriams' over deeds and characters illustrious; and all the more so, since, like the grain of wheat, they fell into the earth that they might fructify the more.

"You search in vain through all the cemeteries of the world for the grave of lost hope interred.

"The Egyptian Pharaoh commands his name to be chiseled in a solid rock, orders his body to be embalmed, and, lying down, exclaims—'Death, where is thy victory? Lo, I live forever!'

"And, as the oldest civilization set the precedent, so have all successive layers continued to build. The horror of annihilation pervades all souls. A conscious rebellion, an irrepressible instinct protests against having one's being measured by the brief space of an ephemeral existence.

"On that text, history ever preaches its 'sermons in stones.' On that key, all those peans of humanity are ever set. Monuments are not dumb sentinels; nor are the songs of jubilee like campaign glees, which cloy in their sounding. They are rather rounds in the ladder of immortality, which the angels of our better nature have been building ever since the ancient patriarch saw a stairway between heaven and earth.

"If we are silent, the 'stones will cry out,' declared Jesus of Nazareth.

"Montgomery's centennial jubilee needs no words of justification, no defence; not even an apology. It does not confront us as a historical novice, an event, solitary or peculiar. It is but another building-stone that we bring for the walls of the temple of immortality, which is rising heavenward, since the creation of man 'in the image of God.' Nor will it prove a Babel tower, once more. 'The maker and builder is

God.' The primal centenary jubilee of this province will challenge the regard of all thoughtful souls now living, and yet to live, within the province.

"The tower at Rhodes, it is said, stood on two shores. And so does every such memorial festival. It is rooted in the hopes of vanished ancestry and in the memory of a living posterity. Our fathers anticipated just such a memorialization at our hands. They made but a few things, but these they made well. Their homesteads stand like castles aside of the frail structures of to-day, with the moss of a full century under their roof-trees. Their handywork was, and is still, hand-work—the products of patient souls and nimble fingers, and proof against moth and rust; yea, proof against dissolution, the tooth of Time. In every surviving article which the hands of our fathers and mothers have made, we may read their craving after an enduring name and being.

"Nor can their offspring fail to respond heartily to so natural a longing. We need not blush over sires so genuine and noble as ours proved. They were stalwart generations of men and women, of fathers and mothers, of sons and daughters; a hardy race of good blood.

"The century's relics are precious then, not merely because they are a hundred years old, but because 'these are they which testify of them'—of the generation that went before. We admire the mountains, not because of their dizzy height alone, but for that these have been standing through all the ages that have been. We admire the stars, not because of their brilliancy alone, but because they have looked down on all generations of men. And such an unction rests upon the remains of our venerable pioneers.

"They have all vanished, all vanished! But if we may look upon their handiwork, are the hands themselves no more? If the husk is preserved, has the corn perished? If the temple still stands, has the builder of the temple ceased to be?

"Then why dance around the dried and withered effects of an ancestry that is to-day no more than if it never had been? Why not follow the example of the red man, and bury the warrior's weapons with the warrior, under ground? A funeral pyre were far more becoming than a jubilee, surely. The old requiem that was doubtless sung over the mortal dust of our sires, had better be intoned over all their musty relics and remains: 'Dust to dust! Earth to earth!! Ashes to ashes!!!'

'But all these are shrines and niches in which
Owners and occupants of earlier dates,
From graves forgotten, stretch their dusty hands,
And hold in mortmain still their old estates.'

"The century's relics are not after the order of Melchizedek, 'without father or mother.' They are the title deeds to homes and lands our sires once acquired; and we are but their heirs. Hence, do we embalm in memory's cabinet their clumsy tenements, their rude utensils, their instruments so rough, their coaches lubberly, their homespun linens, and all their hands have made.

"The shades of our ancestry hover over us, unless the ancients were stark mad in peopling homes and scenes familiar with 'spirits of the dead.'

'All houses wherein men have lived and died,
Are haunted houses. Through the open door
The harmless phantoms on their errands glide,
With feet that make no noise upon the floor.'

'There are more guests at table than the hosts
Invited; the illuminated hall
Is thronged with inoffensive ghosts
As silent as the picture on the wall.'

"The historic places orient themselves through the presence of our sires,

who gave them birth and name and fame. They are their original sponsors.

"Valley Forge, laved by the Schuylkill, rises to view, like a fresh-washed mermaid on the sea, rebaptized with revolutionary glory. What seemed a fiction to our young eyes, asserts itself as a frozen fact. General George Washington did indeed live, and did indeed move a bare-footed band of patriots about this historic centre, from the chilly month of December, in 1777, till the June flowers foretold the budding of freedom—six whole months. From this martyr scene, those Knights of Liberty did truly march upon the hard-fought field of Monmouth, during the darkest hour and gloomiest period of the American Revolution.

"Parker's Ford—that, too, swarms with phantom troops before our vision, once more pursuing the enemy, after the battle of Brandywine, seven years and one day less than one hundred years ago (September 11, 1777).

"Skippack, 'the stream of sluggish waters,' liquefies just now, like the blood of St. Januarius, in the presence of the faithful. The legions that moved along its banks, before and after the battle of Germantown, a century back, on the 4th of October, revisit it. 'Tis as

'I've read in some old, marvelous tale,
Some legend, strange and vague,
That midnight hosts of specters pale,
Beleaguered the city of Prague.'

"Our worthy heroes present a fine galaxy. As is the soil, so is the fruit. In military lore, honorable mention is made of the brave men who lived on our territory. General Peter Muhlenberg, of Independence days, whose statue now graces the rotunda at Washington, was born within our borders. General Andrew Porter, who fought in the Revolutionary army so gallantly, at Trenton, at Princeton, at Brandywine, and wherever courage was needed, was a native of this county.

"Nor dare we forget our grand citizen-soldiers, whose records shine so brilliantly since the late period of contention and strife—Major-Generals John Frederic Hartranft and Winfield Scott Hancock. These are real, genuine Montgomery-countians. And do not the names of Brooke and Zook stand in red letters?

"The civil list embraces among its brighter lights a cluster of very worthy men, all born here. Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, Speaker of the lower house of Congress, was a son of the soil. And is there another province that has furnished so much good timber of which Governors are usually made? David R. Porter, Francis R. Shunk and John F. Hartranft form a trio not so readily matched.

"And still others might be noted, who would not have disgraced that chair, but who could not be accommodated for want of room! So, too, would time fail me to record all the candidates for those honorable seats, in the century to come. These, those who come after us, may tell.

"Our religious pages glow most brilliantly. Rev. Dr. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the patron saint of the American Lutheran church, abode on this fruitful field during forty-five of his most active years. Here he wrought his greatest deeds. Here he died at the ripe age of seventy-eight years. His ashes rest at the old Trappe church, and his name fills all Christendom with its goodly savor.

"Rev. Michael Schlatter, the first Missionary Superintendent of the Reformed church in the United States, made his head centre in Montgomery County. From this point outward he organized the scattered flocks of his faith, and died within its borders, a Christian soldier both for Christ and Cæsar.

"And of all the counties of the Commonwealth, none opened its doors wider to the oppressed for conscience' sake. Here the Friends found an asylum for their peaceful spirit; not only the State received its name, but our county, too. The Welsh Quakers baptized it in honor of their native place beyond the sea.

"Here the persecuted Palatines pitched their early homes. Their log houses, their log school-houses, and their log churches, tell a most interesting tale of patience, endurance and martyrdom.

"Here the colony of Schwenkfeldians, a persecuted flock in Silesia, located and continue with us to this day, the sole place of staying in the wide, wide world.

"And besides these scenes and spirits known, and lauded in history and in song, there are yet many more whom God alone knows. I mean the stalwart patriots of the Revolutionary hosts; the braves of 1812; the heroes in the Mexican war; the martyrs in the rebellion. All these toiled faithfully under their leaders, and died unhonored and unsung by pen and tongue.

"And the victors in peace must not be slighted—the home guards, the tillers of the field, the honest traders in times when Indians and wild beasts prowled about, the trusty servants of daily toil; when one hundred cents made a dollar!

"Let us mention, finally, the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters, who wove, and spun, and made the household happy within, when all was dark without.

"These are all with us to-day, if there be such a mystery as the 'communion of saints.' And we may do ourselves the best of service if we allow ourselves to be baptized afresh by their spirits, and draw a new supply of inspiration for the century before us. Shades of our fathers and mothers hail!

"An ancient seer spoke of a child a hundred years ago. That is the portrait of Montgomery county, a century old. Aged one century, and still but an infant in the arms of Father Time. The snow white tresses that crown the head of our goodly province are but as the grains of dust that float in the sunbeam, to the big eye of history, or to Him in whose sight a thousand years are as one day. Only a little way from the beginning, and hardly any nearer to the end!

"As the christening of the babe follows hard on its birth, so is this festive day but the name of the province. Let it be, as every second birth should be, a regeneration period, from which we ascend the higher plane of a yet nobler life. A still grander history awaits the county. Let no Jeremiaads be sung. It is no time to say, 'Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.'

'Tell us not in mournful numbers,
Life is but an empty dream;
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.'

"Victor Hugo wisely says: 'There is an evil in our times; I will almost say there is only one evil: a certain tendency to place everything in this life.' This serious and eloquent Frenchman declares: 'There would be no dignity in living if we had to die completely. What lightens labor, sanctifies work, renders man brave, good, wise, patient, benevolent, just, at once humble and great, worthy of knowledge, worthy of liberty, is the fact that he has before him the perpetual vision of a better world shining across the shadows of life.' 'As for myself,' this gospel novelist affirms, 'I believe profoundly in this better world; and after many struggles, much study and many trials it is the supreme assurance of my reason, as it is the supreme consolation of my soul.'

"As there is no dead past, so neither is there a dead future. All time is God's—the past, the present, and the future, since 'He was, and is, and is to come.' Let us not be such outrageous optimists as to look back upon the age of our sires as upon an age of darkness and void. Nor will we turn into morbid pessimists, and say, as men have kept on saying ever since the time of old Nestor: 'The former days were better than these.' No! Manhood is better than infancy or childhood! The best of history's crop is not under ground. Blessed are our eyes, for our

fathers desired to see what their sons see, and did not see it! There never has been an age like ours!

"But the harvest of to-day, is but the seed of yesterday matured. Therefore, 'whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, if there be any praise,' within our borders in the year of grace, 1884, all is but the fruiting of the seed embedded by ancestral hands years ago. It has not been lying torpid like the grain of wheat in the Egyptian mummy, but has fructified and grown. There is no new thing under the sun. All things are falling upward. Our chief business is to be consecrated to the work of perpetuating the building which the sires have founded; building on and up, that our posterity may receive it from our hands, even as we have fallen heir to it 'by the fathers' will and testament,' another century's length improved.

'Let us then be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.'

"After our jubilee anthems have died away in total silence, and the waves of rejoicing are merged again in the steady stream of time, like the practical Roman, the still more practical Yankee, will ask the question, 'Cui Bono?'

What shall the answer be?

'Ye whose hearts are fresh and simple,
Who have faith in God and Nature,
Who believe that in all ages
Every human heart is human,
Listen to this simple story
Of the here and the hereafter.'

"This province has made a confessional act of gratitude to Almighty God for his amiable and adorable Providence, but records its acknowledgement on its historical Ebenezer. 'Hitherto the Lord hath helped us.'

"This province has performed an act of filial piety, in memory of a worthy ancestry, and thereby challenges the fulfillment of the first commandment with promise; 'Honor thy father and thy mother.'

"This province has achieved an educational act, which teaches those living, and yet to live, that brave men lived before Agamemnon.'

"This province has erected a triple tower of Faith, Hope and Charity, for another century to come, on which we and our children may read 'He who led the sires will lead the sons.'

"And, surely, with such a spirit of reverence within its loins, Montgomery county may be considered good for another century, I trust.

At the conclusion of Dr. Weiser's oration, the whole audience arose, by request, and united in singing the long meter doxology, 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow.'

After which the Rev. Mr. Rodenbough pronounced the following

BENEDICTION.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, our Heavenly Father, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, be with us, and with all the people of God, now and evermore. Amen.

THIRD DAY.

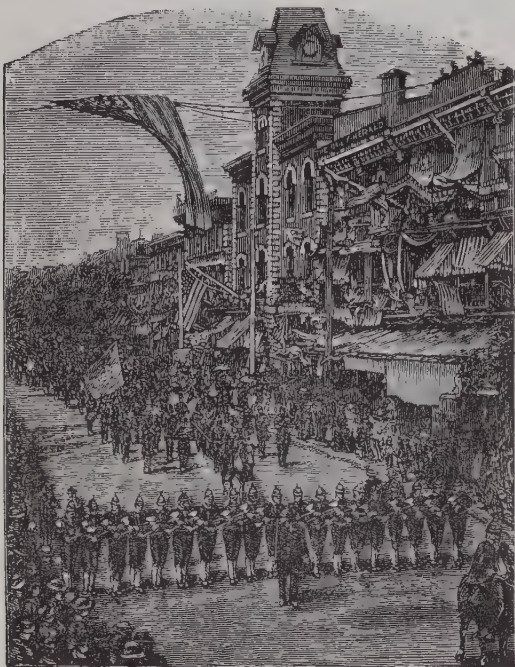
THE PARADE.

Thursday, September 11th, was Parade day.

The parade was formed on the streets west of Stony Creek. Every

division had its particular street upon which to form, so that the procession started with very little confusion.

Col. John W. Schall was Chief Marshal, and to his efficient work, the success of the parade in a great measure was due. There was less delay than usual on such occasions. The parade was to have started at ten o'clock A. M. At fifteen minutes past that time, the head of the line moved over the route selected.



THE PARADE.

The parade was formed and marched according to the following order, issued by the Chief Marshal.

NORRISTOWN, September 1, 1884.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 1.

I. The parade in honor of the centennial of Montgomery county, on Thursday, September 11th, 1884, will be composed of four divisions, as follows:

FIRST DIVISION.

Col. D. C. Swank, Marshal.

Indian children, Grand Army of the Republic, National Guard of Pennsylvania.

SECOND DIVISION.

J. P. Hale Jenkins, Esq., Marshal.

Will be composed of fraternal and benevolent organizations.

THIRD DIVISION.

Major D. B. Hartranft, Marshal.

Will be composed entirely of firemen.

FOURTH DIVISION.

T. J. Baker, Marshal.

Manufacturers, Trades, and Industrial Pursuits.

II. The respective divisions will form at 9.30 A. M., as follows:

First Division—On Astor street, right resting on Marshall, facing west.

Second Division—On Chain street, north and south of Marshall street, right resting on Marshall street.

Third Division—On George street, north and south of Marshall street, right resting on Marshall street.

Fourth Division—On Haws Avenue, right resting on Main street, and on Main street, right resting on Stanbridge street, and facing east. Sewing machine display will form on Kohn street, right resting on Airy street. Dairy display on Stanbridge street, north of Marshall street, right resting on Marshall.

III. The column will move promptly at 10 o'clock A. M., over the following route: Marshall to Stanbridge, to Main, to Walnut, to Airy, to Arch, to Marshall, to Church, to Airy, to De Kalb, to Penn, to Swede, to Chestnut, to DeKalb, to Spruce, to Willow, to Elm, to Swede, to Oak, to Cherry, to Main, and dismiss.

IV. Division Marshals will appoint a sufficient number of Aids, and will issue such orders relative to the formation of their respective divisions as they may deem necessary.

V. All organizations arriving via the Reading Railroad will disembark at Main street station, and those arriving via Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley will disembark at Franklin avenue station.

By order of

Chief Marshal.

THOMAS J. STEWART, *Chief of Staff.*

At the court-house the parade was reviewed by the officers of the Association, who left the line when it arrived at that point.

The following constituted the order of the parade:

Chief Marshal—Col. John W. Schall.

Chief of Staff—Thomas J. Stewart.

Aids—Dr. J. K. Weaver, Dr. William J. Ashenfelter, John Pugh, Roscoe K. Moir, and Isaac Chism, Esq.

FIRST DIVISION.

Marshal—Col. Daniel C. Swank.

Aids—George G. Hoover, Esq., J. Schrack Shearer, and John A. Vanderslice.

Pottstown Cornet Band. 20 pieces.

Zook Post Drum Corps.

Company F, Sixth Regiment, N. G. Pa., uniformed and armed, Capt. Henry Jacobs, commanding.

Zook Post No. 11, G. A. R. of Norristown, in full uniform, with battle flags. Hiram Hansell, Commander.

Liberal Drum Corps.

George A. Smith Post, No. 79, G. A. R., of Conshohocken. James Wolfong, Commander.

Twenty Indian boys from the Indian Department of Lincoln Institute, uniformed. Seventy-five Indian girls from the same.

Institution, in carriages. Under charge of

David Schall, Marshal's Aid.

Carriages with Officers of the Centennial Association and invited guests, as follows:

1. Joseph Fornance, Esq., F. G. Hobson, Esq., J. A. Strassburger, Esq., Muscoe M. Gibson, Esq.

2. Hon. B. Markley Boyer, Hon. Isaac F. Yost, Gen. John H. Hobart.

3. William J. Buck, Abraham H. Cassel, Henry S. Dotterer, Robert Iredell.

4. Mrs. Dr. George W. Holstein, Mrs. Sarah H. Tyson, Mrs. C. R. Hallowell.

5. Hon. I. Newton Evans, Hon. William H. Sutton, Hon. Lewis Royer, John W. Bickel, Esq.

6. Henry W. Kratz, Edwin S. Stahlnecker, Hiram Burdan, William Rittenhouse.

7. Prof. J. Shelly Weinberger, Dr. Milton Newberry, Prof. R. F. Hoffecker.

8. Prof. S. U. Brunner, Thomas G. Rutter, James B. Harvey, George F. Wanger.

9. B. Frank Tyson, Septimus Roberts, James B. Hollands, Major William H. Holstein.

Carriages containing Town Council of Norristown.

Town Council of Bridgeport.

Town Council of Pottstown.

Visiting officials from other boroughs.

SECOND DIVISION.

Marshal—J. P. Hale Jenkins, Esq.

Aids—Edward P. Gresh, Hon. George N. Corson, and Dr. M. Y. Weber.

Liberty Legion Pioneer Corps, in full uniform, carrying axes. Capt.

Edward Bisbing, Commander.

East Greenville Cornet Band.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Aaron Sperry, Marshal. Represented by the following lodges:

Montgomery, No. 57; Curtis, No. 239; Norris, No. 430; Pennsburg, No. 449; Perkiomenville, No. 367.

Merion Cornet Band.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows, viz.:

Economy, No. 397; Merion, No. 210; Gratitude, No. 214; Banyan Tree, No. 100; Spring House, No. 329.

Ironbridge Cornet Band.

Limerick Council, No. 278, Order United American Mechanics, in regalia, with man disguised as an Indian, bearing a battle axe.

Milton T. Miller, Marshal.

Eagleville Cornet Band.

Neville Council, No. 25, Junior Order of American Mechanics.

William Thompson, Marshal.

Republican Invincible Pioneer Corps, uniformed in red shirts and white helmets. Markley Murray, Commander.

Frankenfield's West Philadelphia Band.

Knights of Friendship. Hon. George N. Corson, Marshal. H. C.

Gerhart, Assistant Marshal. Represented by

the following chambers:

Harmony, No. 1; Protection, No. 8; George Washington, No. 16;

Alpha, of Camden; Consonance, of Norristown; Fidelia, of Reading.

In full regalia, white plumes, and appropriate banners.

Alpha Fife and Drum Corps of Reading.

Jenkintown Band.

Abington Lodge, Knights of Pythias. Dark clothes, fatigue caps, and swords. Charles Gentry, S. K., Commander.

Knights of Pythias, No. 388, of Shoemakerstown. White helmets and plumes. William Flowers, S. K., Commander.

State Fencibles Drum Corps.

Delegation from the First Regiment, Philadelphia.

Knights of the Golden Eagle. R. J. Lumpkin, Marshal. Aids—Dr.

Isaac Taylor, Olivet Castle; J. D. Barnes, Cœur De Lion

Castle; E. M. Lowery, St. John Castle.

Cyrus Castle, No. 1, K. of G. E. 50 men. H. R. Lightcap, N. C.

Members of Keystone, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Crusaders, St. John,

Aurora, Ingomar, Ivanhoe, Waverly, Columbia, Welcome, Oriental,

Quaker City, Southwark, Pilgrim, Warwick, Apollo, Constantine,

Cyrene, Kenilworth, Lincoln, Fidelity, Shekinah, Olivet, Cœur

De Lion, Knights and Grand Castle officers of Delaware, Maryland,

and New Jersey.

Washington Grays' Band.

T. M. K. Lee Drum Corps of Philadelphia.

THIRD DIVISION.

Marshal—Major D. B. Hartranft.

Aids—Augustus W. Lukens, Samuel Money, Jr., Esq., Col. Edw. Schall.

S. P. Hanson, Esq.

First Regiment Band of Wilmington, Del.

Norristown Hose Company. Eugene D. Egbert, Esq., Marshal.

Assistants—F. W. Hillebrecht, Levi Landis, and

Richard Wilson.

Franklin Band of Philadelphia.

Montgomery Fire Company, of Norristown, uniformed. Dark overcoat and helmet hats. W. H. Koplin, Marshal.

Independent Band of Manayunk.

South Penn Hose Company, of Philadelphia. Red shirts and helmets.

Henry Stedelman, Marshal.

Sixth Regiment Band of Camden.

Volunteer Firemen's Association, of Philadelphia. R. M. Stanton, Marshal.

First Division, in fatigue dress.

Northern Liberty Fife and Drum Corps.

Second Division in full uniform. Gray overcoats and helmets.

Weccacoe Band.

Humane Steam Fire Engine Company, of Norristown. Engine drawn by four horses. Uniform—white hat, nickel front, light

overcoat, red shirt, and black pants. William

Stahler, Marshal.

Southwark Drum Corps.

Niagara Hose Company, of Philadelphia, with hose carriage drawn by hand. James J. Daly, Marshal.

Metropolitan Band.

Fairmount Hook and Ladder Company, of Norristown, with truck drawn by four horses, and hose carriage drawn by hand.

Uniform—red shirt, red hat, and black pants.

Marshal—John Burnett. Company Marshal—Edward Kehoe. Assistants—Howard Moore and L. R. Shaffer.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Marshal—T. Jefferson Baker.

Aids—Louis Sritzinger, William D. Heebner, W. S. Stacker, M. Mack,

Walter Keim, David Ross, Esq., O. K. Beyer, W. A. Bunting,

Charles Ramey, James Hunsicker, J. C. Jones,

Adolph Dagen.

George Bullock Band.

Employees of Conshohocken Worsted Mills. W. M. MacKenzie, Marshal. 225 men, with blue silk banner, followed by large float, with engine and machinery running.

Float, with Hon. Hiram C. Hoover whetting old-fashioned scythe.

Float, with Samuel F. Jarrett threshing grain with flail.

R. R. De Haven, Norristown. Agricultural machines.

The Hubbard Gleaner and Binder.

West Point Engine and Machine Works. Two large floats, with steam farm machinery running.

Samuel Effrig & Co., Lansdale. Smoke-house on wheels curing hams.

A. C. Godshalk & Bro., Lansdale. Wagon loaded with flour.

Heebner & Sons, Lansdale. Agricultural machines.

A. D. Ruth, Lansdale. Agricultural machines.

J. S. Geller, Lansdale. Wagons with furniture.

W. H. Derrickson, Gulf Mills. Bricklayers with tools on decorated float.

J. K. Hendricks, Norristown. Wagon loaded with wheat and flour, with musicians on top.

A. F. Jarrett, Norristown. Float loaded with flour, and placard announcing his mill the first in the county.

Hibberd and Brooke, Bridgeport. Wagon load of flour.

J. G. Landis, Norristown. Wagon load of flour.

F. G. Stritzinger, Norristown. Imitation of an oven on wheels, with bakers at work, and several decorated wagons.

William H. Koplin, Norristown. Decorated wagons with tin ware.
 Hercules Cigar Factory. Wagon with cigar makers at work.
 J. E. Boucot, Bridgeport. Wagon with a pyramid ten feet high, covered with watches.
 George W. Smith, Norristown. Float with marble cutters at work.
 H. A. Derr, Norristown. Wagon containing monuments.
 Lowe Manufacturing Company, Norristown. Float with specimens of their stoves and heaters.
 W. S. Richards & Co., Bridgeport. Float with freight elevators.
 John Stiver, Norristown. Decorated wagon and cart, with workmen carrying digging tools.
 S. Gillinger & Bros., Barren Hill. Wagon with terra-cotta work.
 W. J. Graver & Son, Plymouth. Wagon surmounted by immense tin horn, with four horses, two ridden by knights in armor.
 P. Curran and P. McGrath. Ornamented liquor wagons.
 John C. Muller. Ornamented wagon.
 D. H. Streeper, Norristown. Perkins' wind-mill on ornamented wagon.
 Blasius & Sons, Norristown. Ornamented wagon.
 D. Y. Mowday, Norristown. Wagons loaded with furniture.
 J. C. Hathaway, Norristown. Ornamented wagon, decorated with shirts.
 Lansdale Band.
 Butchers' Association. S. J. Long, Marshal.
 Jesse B. Davis, Norristown. Wagon containing live sheep.
 John B. Horn, Bridgeport. Wagon with large screen, decorated with hams, sausages, and tongues.
 Butchers in silk hats, white shirts, and blue sashes. Forty men on horse-back.
 S. J. Long, Norristown. Wagon with hides and horns.
 R. Schetz, Norristown. Boys with banners, delivery wagons, and wagon with large transparency bearing his business card.
 Also similar wagon with six horses, and men on top throwing soap to the crowd.
 Jerry March and A. Finley, Norristown. Grocers' wagons.
 John Kneas, Norristown. Wagon with tri-colored cover.
 A. H. March, George W. Roberts, Joseph Middleton, Norristown. Wagons.
 A. Richardson, Norristown. Large wagon filled with little girls.
 William Rittenhouse, Norristown. Wagon.
 S. M. Moore, Norristown. Wagon loaded with watermelons.
 Wagons from North Wales Marble Works.
 Philip Quillman, Norristown. Wagon with German Band. Floats with fine china and Lucas' paints, driven by men in three-cornered hats. Also a float with Quaker gun and soldiers in Continental uniforms.
 W. H. Kneas, Norristown. Coal cart, with large shield bearing his name.
 Hatboro Band.
 E. Neal, Jarrettown. Six large wagons, one with a transparency inscribed, "Our motto is unity with our sister counties in the advancement of skill in labor." Another was driven by a masked demon, and had a model of a hay wagon on top.
 Roxborough Carriage Works. Carriages on floats.
 Moore & Rose, Norristown. Webster wagon, on top of which was a carriage containing a gaily dressed colored lady.
 M. S. Freeman, Norristown. Domestic sewing machines, one with an organette attached.
 Singer Manufacturing Co. Six teams. Drop cabinet in operation.
 Wagon with three machines run by little girls.
 Milk Dealers' Association. Decorated wagons.

Coal Dealers. Carts gaily decorated, filled with workmen.
 Prof. Dill's Balm of Life wagon, with red tent and blue banners.

THE INDIAN CHILDREN.

A feature of great interest in the parade was the delegation of Indian children, from the Indian Department of the Lincoln Institute, of Philadelphia. They occupied open conveyances in the procession. They were in charge of Mrs. J. Bellangee Coxé and their chaplain, Rev. J. L. Miller, and were received and cared for during their stay by David Schall. After the parade they were taken to the tents in the court house yard, where they received their dinner, after which they sang several choruses.

At this point, Col. Theo. W. Bean, on behalf of the Centennial Association, addressed them as follows:

ADDRESS.

Children of Chiefs and Warriors—In the name of the good people of Montgomery County, we cordially welcome you and the Christian philanthropists who have you in charge, to the memorial festivities of our centennial celebration. We recognize in you the descendants of the race who once were the proud possessors of the ground we now occupy, and honorably and peaceably acquired of them by William Penn, the founder of our great Commonwealth. Two hundred years and more have elapsed since Christian civilization confronted your forefathers in the Schuylkill valley. Your hunting grounds have been turned into wide areas of agricultural wealth and commercial splendor, and the rude implements of their simple mode of living are now here on exhibition as antique curiosities. Back to the Alleghenies, across the Father of Waters, over and beyond the Rocky Mountains, your race has receded, and from the plains and forests of the Pacific slope you have been gathered as the children of lost tribes, in the hope of saving the remnant of a people whose origin is still an ethnological mystery, and whose honor is vouched for by Acrelius, Penn, Logan, Heckewelder, Gordon, and Weiser. Children, you are the hopeful wards of humane men and women. We first learned of your presence in our midst through the efforts of Mrs. Coxé, who is in attendance upon you to-day. Our people have been delighted with the thought and reality of having you as our guests, and hope you will improve the advantages of training in store for you. And when you have grown to well-informed man and womanhood, we trust you will carry with you to your far Western homes the potent agencies of a liberal Christian civilization; that you will all become active factors for the redemption of your tribes and race; that you will become good husbands, industrious artisans, devoted teachers, peaceful men and women. Then will you have descendants who will some future day memorialize your inscrutable past in picture and story, and worthily lead you in sharing the blessing of peace and prosperity, the heritage of all in our country.

Rev. Joseph L. Miller, chaplain of the institution, responded to the address, on behalf of the visitors, in a short speech.

FOURTH DAY.

The Antiquarian Exposition was the only feature on the concluding day of the county's centennial, and was attended by about fifteen thousand persons, during the celebration. It was held in the Court House rooms, and in a tent, erected as an annex, in the Court House yard. The articles sent for exhibition were appropriate in selection and endless in variety. Their number was far in excess of the space available and prepared for their display; yet under the able management and sound judgment of the committees, such disposition was made of them as gave general satisfaction to the exhibitors and unbounded pleasure to the visitors.

The character of the exhibits was thoroughly representative. Every era in our history, every nationality rooted within our borders, every denomination which has here enjoyed religious freedom, contributed objects select and typical. Most of the prominent families identified with the progress of this region, from the time of the pioneer settlers, down to the present day, sent their Bibles and books, treasured heirlooms, works of art and antiquity—their Lares and Penates—symbols of refinement and taste—evidences of reverential regard for the men and things of the Past.

The Exposition was educational in its influence upon our people. It stimulated a taste for the artistic and the beautiful, for the preservation of antiquities, and for the prosecution of historical research. It afforded the first opportunity to the inhabitants of our county, to realize how general is the love for that which is superior to the merely practical, and how widely diffused is the appreciation of that which appeals to the higher sensibilities. It will leave a permanent impress for good.

The following is a classified list of exhibits, with an alphabetically arranged list of exhibitors. To many of the articles are appended notes, furnished generally by the owners, respecting the history of the exhibits, which will be found of much interest now, and of great value in the future.

LIST OF EXHIBITS.

COMPILED BY HENRY S. DOTTERER.

CLASS I.

INDIAN RELICS AND ANTIQUITIES.

- Abraham, Joseph**, Abrams. Fifty Arrow-heads, found by exhibitor on the supposed site of a Lenni-Lenape village, near the junction of Elliott's run and the Schuylkill river.
- Ambler, Joseph E.**, Ambler. Indian Riding Whip and Moccasins, presented to exhibitor by Indians on the reservation of the Iowa tribe and the Sacs and Foxs.
- Anders, Amos S.**, Norritonville. Indian Arrow-heads.
- Anderson, M. P.**, Trappe. Indian Relics.
- Atkinson, F. C.**, Norristown. Indian Axe, found in Plymouth township.
- Bates, Cornelius**, Jenkintown. Two Stone Axes, found in Montgomery County. Twenty-eight Stone Hatchets.
- Blackfan, Mrs. Joseph**, Norristown. Indian Tomahawk, found on a farm in Farmingdale, Monmouth county, New Jersey.
- Boorse, Ella R.**, Kulpsville. Indian Basket.
- Boorse, John C.**, Kulpsville. Indian axe.
- Buck, William J.**, Jenkintown. Iron Tomahawk, from an Indian grave in Moreland, in 1855. Supposed to be of Dutch or Swedish make, some time before Penn's arrival. Twenty-nine Indian Darts, found in Montgomery county between 1842 and 1880.
- Childs, S. Powell**, Plymouth. Indian Relics.
- Conrow, Mrs. George E. B.**, Norristown. One Mexican Indian Pepper Grinder, and one Mexican Indian Dish. Both made by the natives.
- Corson, Miss Georgie**, Norristown. Indian Arrow-heads, found on the banks of the Susquehanna.
- Cox, Mrs. Charles**, Ambler. Splint Basket, made by Indians. 100 years old.
- Dalton, John**, Abrams. Indian Axe, plowed from the farm in 1883.
- Detwiler, Jones**, Blue Bell. Arrow Points, Tomahawks, Skinning Stones, Hoes, Sling Stones, Rubbers, and Whetstones. 164 pieces.
- Elkinton, Paul P.**, Blue Bell. Indian Axe-head and Arrow-heads, found on the farm near Blue Bell.
- Fitzgerald, Jesse O.**, Horsham. Collection of sixty-eight Indian Relics, found on the farm of James W. Iredell, in Horsham township, between the years 1874 and 1884. This farm of seventy-five acres was formerly owned by the Lukens family. It is near the head-waters of the creek bearing the Indian name Pemmapeeka, which passes through it. On the adjoining farm, formerly of Isaac Lukens, now of Harris Webster, is a spring called the Indian spring. Tradition asserts that the Indians in former times encamped in this vicinity.
- Grimley, Solomon K.**, Schwenksville. Large Indian Axe, found by Daniel Pennypacker in 1870. Indian Stone Tomahawk, found by R. Hartzell in 1856. Large Indian Stone Bullet, found by F. S. Schwenk in 1882. Indian Stone Billy, found by F. S. Schwenk in 1881. Small Indian Stone Bullet, found by F. S. Schwenk in 1883. Twenty Indian Arrow-heads, by Ross Clinton, S. K. Grimley, Jr., and F. S. Schwenk, from 1840 to 1884.
- Hallman, Wilson**, Shippack. Indian Axe, found imbedded in sand on the banks of Skippack creek.
- Hamel, William**, Shoemakertown. Indian Relic.
- Heckler, James Y.**, Harleysville. Indian Arrows and Fossils.
- Heebner, Mrs. C. B.**, Collegeville. Indian Spears.
- Hendricks, John, and William McGowan**, Mont Clare. Indian Darts, found August 18, 1884, in a post-hole, on the farm of Mrs. Gertrude Thompson.
- Hoot, Simon F.**, Ironbridge. Indian Axe, found on Fry's estate, Bucks county.
- Jacobs, Harry**, Frederick. Indian Arrow-head.
- Jacobs, John**, Frederick. Indian Battle-Axe, in excellent state of preservation.
- Jones, Henry**, Ambler. Indian Curiosities and Relics, obtained in 1870 on the reservation of the Iowa tribe and Sac and Fox.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Two Indian Jugs. Indian Tomahawk.
- Kriebble, Jesse S.**, Worcester. Arrow-heads, found in the fields.
- Kriebble, Septimus A.**, Kulpsville. Indian Arrow-heads.
- Lowe, Mrs. T. S. C.**, Norristown. War Club and Hatchet of Oneida Indians. Indian Hatchet. Two Indian Smoking Pipes. Indian Wooden Pipe Stem.
- McGowan, William**, Mont Clare. See Hendricks, John.
- Mann, Charles S. and Albert**, Horsham. Two hundred and fifty-eight Indian Relics—principally Arrow-heads and a few Knives and Spear-heads—neatly arranged in the shape of stars and darts, and placed in two frames.
- Mann, Jesse**, Pittville. Indian Stone Shovel and Indian Relics. Indian Canoe, made of birch bark.
- Markley, Freundschaft**, The Tomahawk. Belongs to Augustus G. Markley, Collegeville.
- Metz, Jacob B.**, Norritonville. Indian Axe, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, found in Norriton some years ago.
- Nice, Robert**, Branchtown. Indian Stone Pestle, for grinding corn.
- Nyce, George S.**, Frederick. Indian Battle Axe.
- Peterman, Frederick**, Collegeville. Indian Axe of stone, found on the Philadelphia and Reading railroad, above Flat Rock tunnel, in the cleft of a rock. A Stone Arrow-head.
- Ralston, Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. Five pieces Indian Pottery from Mexico—two Pitchers and three Bowls, part of the large collection of the late Dr. J. G. Ralston. Two of the Bowls are the work of the Pueblo Indians; one Bowl is of dark soapstone. The Pitchers are of a micaceous clay.
- Rambo, Frank L.**, Trappe. Indian Axe.
- Reed, Dr. W. H.**, Jeffersonville. Arrow-heads, collected at Norriton.
- Ritchie, E. S.**, Hatboro. Indian Axe, found on a farm in Upper Moreland.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Indian Hammer.
- Rossiter, Mrs. Anna**, Blue Bell. Indian Tomahawk, stone. Flint and Arrow-point.
- Schildt, Charles**, Worcester. Indian Axe and Relics.
- Schultz, Amos**, Niantic. Five Indian Arrow-heads.
- Shambough, Jackson**, Collegeville. Indian Hatchet and Arrow-heads.
- Shay, Elizabeth Y.**, Three Tons. Indian Axe, found on exhibitor's farm in 1864.
- Shepherd, Isaac**, Plymouth Meeting. Axe, made and used by the Indians.
- Shifer, Dr. H. F.**, North Wales. Lot of Indian Spears, Indian Arrows and Quiver, a Pipe, two Axes, and Indian Mill, a Cap, and Ear-ring.
- Snyder, John H.**, Kulpsville. Indian Necklace, worn by a Pawnee squaw.
- Stannard, E. J.**, Broad Axe. Pestle, made and used by the Indians.
- Stout, Ann**, Edge Hill Village. Indian Relic.
- Supplee, Miss Kate**, Conshohocken. Two Indian Arrow-heads.
- Trumbauer, J. B.**, Jenkintown. Indian Maize Hammer.
- Tyson, Benjamin F.**, Worcester. Indian Mortar of stone, for grinding corn.

- Tyson, Samuel**, King-of-Prussia. Three Indian Pestles, found at Burlington, N. J. Three Indian Axes; one found at Norristown, the other two at Burlington, N. J.
- Walker, Howard**, Mont Clare. Indian Hatchet.
- Wanger, Geo. F. Price**, Norristown. Four Indian Axes.
- Weber, George M.**, Worcester. Arrow-heads and other Indian Relics, picked up in Worcester township.
- Yeakle, Daniel**, Chestnut Hill. Indian Missiles, found on Daniel Yeakle's farm and thereabouts.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. J. M.**, Yerkes. Collection of Indian Relics.

CLASS II.

ANTIQUITIES OF THE FIRST SETTLERS AND EARLY PURCHASERS.

- Batchelder, Meredith**, Norristown. Looking-Glass, brought from Germany in 1746 by Nicholas Rittenhouse.
- Boorse, John C.**, Kulpsville. Nine grains of Rye, found in the plastering of the chimney of a house built by William Tennis in 1733. Ink Jug of the great-grandfather of exhibitor.
- Cope, O. W.**, Hatboro. Old style Window Pane, brought from England 1720, the glass set in leaden frames, from a house still standing in Bucks County.
- Eastburn, Annie**, Bridgeport. Coat-of-Arms; came over in a vessel with William Penn. Property of John Eastburn, Surveyor General to the Proprietary.
- Erb, Mahlon**, Kulpsville. Lock and Key, brought over in 1734 by David Seibt, one of the Schwenkfelders immigrants, who was the great-grandfather of the exhibitor's mother. David Seibt (now written Seipt) died in 1765, in Towamencin township, on the farm now owned by Lewis Hakel. Small Sheep Shears, brought over by the Heydrick family, who were of the Schwenkfelders who came in 1734.
- Fitzwater, Mrs. Joseph**, Port Providence. Seal, bearing date 1699, supposed to have belonged to William Penn.
- Fryer, Henry S.**, Skippack. Arm-Chair, brought from Germany by Michael Ziegler; traced back two hundred years. Pruning Knife, brought from Germany by Henry Fryer; 165 years old. Bread and Cake Basket, brought from Germany in 1719 by Henry Fryer.
- Grimley, Solomon K.**, Schwenksville. Tiles of Heinrich Pfannebäcker, 1730. Piece of an Antler, taken out of an Indian cave, about 1784, by Solomon Grimley, who settled here in 1751.
- Jones, Mrs. Edward Price**, Norristown. China Bowl (mended), brought from Wales in 1684 by Hugh Roberts; now belongs to his descendant, the exhibitor.
- Kriebel, Abraham K.**, Kulpsville. Flax, raised in Silesia; brought by the Schwenkfelders one hundred and fifty years ago.
- Wanger, Geo. F. Price**, Norristown. Scales and Weights, brought from Germany by Heinrich Wanger, founder of the Wanger family in Montgomery County. Inscription on case: Properly adjusted Scales and Weights, Master-maker, Jacob Freckenberge, Scale-Maker, Underhelm, 1742.
- Wolfe, Dr. Samuel**, Skippack. Button-Hole Hatchet, brought over by the Schwenkfelders in 1734, and since then in possession of the Seipt family.

CLASS III.

RELICS AND RECORDS OF THE COLONIAL PERIOD.

- Boorse, John C.**, Kulpsville. Naturalization Papers, with names, 1743.
- Cope, O. W.**, Hatboro. Square Tile from the Park House, erected and formerly occupied by Sir William Keith, Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania, appointed by William Penn. This Tile, brought from England in 1717, was one of several around the large open fireplace.
- Ralston, Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. Commission from Hon. James Hamilton to Richard Peters, Esq., 1746.
- Taylor, John**, Lower Merion. Collection of Charters of Pennsylvania, viz: Royal Charter of William Penn, from Charles II. First Frame of Government, granted 1682. Act of settlement made at Chester, 1682. Second Frame of Government, granted 1683. Charter of the City of Philadelphia, October 25, 1701. New Charter to the Providence, October 27, 1701. Draft of Bill, dated Philadelphia, April 14, 1778, declaring the intentions of the Parliament of Great Britain concerning the imposing of taxes within His Majesty's Dominions in North America.
- Wanger, Geo. F. Price**, Norristown. Volume of Pennsylvania Chronicle for the year 1767. Contains an advertisement of sale of

13,000 acres of land in Fauquier County, Virginia, estate of George Carter, deceased, signed Robert Burwell, George Washington and Fielding Lewis, Trustees.

The following notice from John Potts, founder of Pottstown, appears in this volume:

To the FREEHOLDERS and others, Electors for the City and County of Philadelphia:

Gentlemen—I return you my sincere and hearty Thanks for the Mark of your Esteem in choosing me one of your Representatives at the last Election; but as my present Indisposition renders my Attendance at the House impossible, I beg you will choose some other Person at the coming Election, in my stead. I am respectfully yours, JOHN POTTS.

A notice from the ladies also appears, that they "will neither wear Ribbons or Jewelry or drink Tea which has to be purchased from England." The editor, commenting on this, says: "How agreeable will they appear in their native Beauty, stript of their Ornaments, from the prevailing motive of Love to their Country."

Ziegler, Elmer R., Kulpsville. Bullet, found by Rev. Samuel Hamil, one of the participants in the battle of Great Meadows, in Allegheny County, in 1754, and given to his son, Rev. Samuel Hamil, born on Main street, Norristown.

CLASS IV.

RELICS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

- Bates, Cornelius**, Jenkintown. Revolutionary Pistol and Small Pistol. Two Cannon Balls, found on Edge and Camp Hills, supposed to be Revolutionary.
- Blackfan, Mrs. Joseph**, Norristown. Coat, worn in the battle of Brandywine, 1777, in the Revolutionary war. Pitcher, used by General Washington while in the battle of Germantown.
- Carr, Mrs. E.**, Fort Washington. Cannon Ball, from near the camp at Fort Washington.
- Cassel, Isaac R.**, North Wales. Knife, belonging to an English officer during the Revolution.
- Cope, O. W.**, Hatboro. Looking-Glass, with a diamond ring on the face, done by a British officer during the Revolution, in honor of the pretty daughters of the hostess at the house at which he was stopping, in Bristol, Bucks County. Cannon Ball, from the battle of Germantown. Gold Watch, which belonged to Lafayette, and was carried by him during the Revolution. General Lafayette gave this watch to General Smith, of Maryland, who in turn sold it to the grandfather of its present owner, John Van Pelt, of Hatboro.
- Crawford, Mrs. V. Virginia**, Bryn Mawr. Certificate to Oath of Allegiance, taken by William Crawford, to the State of Pennsylvania, in 1777.
- Curwen, George F.**, Villa Nova. Congress Chair, 1776.
- Davis, Jesse B.**, Norristown. Sword of the Revolutionary war, used by Captain James Shannon.
- Detwiler, Jones**, Blue Bell. Statement of the accounts of Col. George Smith, a sub-lieutenant of Philadelphia County, in which is exhibited, for the information of the public, the amount of fines received and accounted for him, between March, 1777, and April, 1780. This pamphlet contains the names of the enrolled militia, and the amount that each individual paid for non-performance of militia duty in the townships of Plymouth, Whitpain, Providence, Norrington, Whitmarsh, Gwynedd, and Worcester. Oath of Allegiance, dated May 30, 1778, of Christian Loeser, of Whitpain township, before Seth Owen. Continental Certificate, to William Long, for one cow, sold to the government for \$1,100; dated June 9, 1780. Continental Certificate, to Elias Rosenberry, for one red heifer, two years old, for \$667; dated June 15, 1780. Return of Whiskey, used by the Third Picket Guard, October 17, 1781, amounting to twenty-two gills. Return of Whiskey, used by the First Picket Guard, under the care of James Irvine. Captain, at Newtown, Bucks County, for twenty-two gills; dated October 7, 1781.
- Dismant, Amos**, Royersford. Cannon Ball of 1777.
- Eckard, James Read**, Abington. A Musket and Sword, which crossed the Delaware with Washington's army.
- Emery, Peter**, Norristown. Two Pewter Plates, lettered on the rim "Margreth Beitenmannen, 1773." One of these plates was used in camp at Valley Forge by John Emmerich, a Revolutionary soldier in the company of Captain Richards, of New Hanover. John Emmerich

- and Margret Beiteman were married in 1773, and were the grandparents of the exhibitor. Pewter Plate, captured from a Hessian soldier at Germantown.
- Fitzwater, Joseph**, Port Providence. Cannon Ball, found in Montgomery County, opposite Valley Forge. Bayonet, found on Washington's camp ground, Valley Forge.
- Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox**, Norristown. Commission of Captain Thomas Rice, of the Third Company of Artillery, 1783. Oath of Allegiance of Captain Thomas Rice, dated July 1, 1777. A Door. This door is from the house formerly occupied by Captain Andrew Knox, two miles from Norristown, at which he stood alone, and with a broad-sword defended himself against eight armed Tories, sent by the British army to take him. Their determination to accomplish their object, and the desperate manner in which the Captain defended himself, is to be seen from the bullet holes in the door, as well as the impression of the butt end of the musket and marks of the bayonet. In 1777-'78, when General Washington with his army lay at Valley Forge, the General commissioned Captain Knox to cut off the supplies of the British army, which then occupied Philadelphia. So well did the Captain discharge his duty, that the enemy offered fourteen hundred pounds sterling for his person, and thirty armed men were dispatched from the army to take him and two other officers. Eight of the number arrived at his dwelling at midnight, and commanded him to surrender. He refused, and meeting them at this door with his broad-sword, used it so freely on their heads as they attempted to enter, as to compel them to retreat, after severely wounding him. All of their number were more or less wounded; two of them so severely cut as to be taken next day, having been tracked by their blood on the snow, and found concealed a short distance from Norristown. Both were hung at Centre Square, four miles northeast of Norristown. General Washington and his officers, with Benjamin Franklin, visited Captain Knox after the contest, complimented him for his bravery, and examined and handled this door. The house to which it belonged was built about 1730, by David Knox, the first of the Knox family in America. It remained in possession of the descendants until a few years ago, when it was sold and torn down. The door was preserved by the late Colonel Thomas P. Knox. An old Bayonet, dug from a ditch near the house described above.
- Gillingham, E.**, Villa Nova. Orderly Book, kept at Valley Forge during Revolutionary war. Powder Horn, used in the Revolution.
- Grimley, Solomon K.**, Schwenksville. Three iron Bullets of the Revolutionary war, six lead Bullets, and one Flint. Found by S. K. Grimley, Jr., and S. Schillich, from 1860 to 1884.
- Holstein, William H.**, Bridgeport. Two Cannon Balls, piece of Shell, and Small Hatchet, from Valley Forge encampment.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Six Guns from the Revolution. Sword, Captured at the battle of Paoli. Cartridge Box, 112 years old. A Bomb. A Saddle and Saddle-bag. A Flask. Tin Cartridge Boxes, 82 years old.
- Koplin, Mrs. Mary W.**, Norristown. Bell-metal Kettle, used during the Revolutionary war.
- Kulp, Elias K.**, Lederachville. Cannon Ball of about eighteen pounds, known to have been on the farm of exhibitor's grandfather ninety years, and supposed to have come down from Revolution times.
- Lenhart George**, Three Tuns. Cannon Ball, found on Camp Hill.
- Miller, Jackson W.**, Jeffersonville. Shoeing Hammer, used in shoeing General Washington's horse at Germantown.
- Nyce, George S.**, Frederick. Bayonet, 130 years old. Belonged to Col. Anthony Bitting's regiment, in the Revolutionary war. Receipt of the Revolution: I Do Certify that Coll Robt Robinson bought at public Vendue a Continental Sorral Horse With a bald face thirteen & 1/2 hands high marked Co A on the left thigh and P P on the near fore Shoulder for Which I have Received five hundred & five Dollars for the States Uses. [W McCalla, A. Q. G., 505 Dollars, Jan'y 10th 1780]
- Pechin, John W.**, King-of-Prussia. Table upon which General Washington wrote and from which he ate, at General Wayne.
- Rex, Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. Silver button, found on the farm, and supposed to be a Revolutionary Relic.
- Rex, Miss M. D.**, Flourtown. Old Sword, used in the Revolution.
- Rorer, Isaac**, Frankford. Powder Horn, found in Cheltenham during the Revolution; handsomely carved, bearing date 1752, owner's name, John Hunt, British coat-of-arms, view of New York harbor, Masonic emblems, and maker's name, Samuel McCatlet.
- Rue, Louisa**, Norristown. Small Breakfast Table, used by Washington and Lafayette at the Unicorn Hotel, in Delaware county, in 1776.
- Schumo, Dr. Eugene**, Abington. Prescription Scales of Dr. Archibald McLean, Surgeon during the Revolutionary war, and practitioner of medicine in Montgomery county. Deposited by his great-grandson.
- Sinkler, Dr. Wharton**, Philadelphia. English Escutcheon, from the battle-field of Eutaw Springs.
- Slingluff, John**, Fairview Village. Spectacles and Case, used by a relative in the Revolutionary war.
- Snyder, John H.**, Kulpsville. Small Book, left on a table by British soldiers, while in Towamencin, during the Revolution. The soldiers had ordered eggs boiled. After their departure the lady of the house found the book among the eggshells.
- Stannard, E. J.**, Broad Axe. Gun, taken from an English officer, in the Revolutionary war. Sword, taken from a French prisoner by exhibitor's grandfather, Samuel Stannard, who was a Captain in the Revolutionary war. Cannon Ball, found in Whitpain township. Piece of Fort Ticonderoga, taken when the British surrendered.
- Truckess, David, Sr.**, Providence Square. Cannon Ball, used during the Revolution.
- Tyson, Mrs. Sarah H.**, King-of-Prussia. Washington's Candlestick and Lantern, used by him at Valley Forge. They were brought from Valley Forge by John Mowerer, General Washington's wagon master, and were bought at Mowerer's sale by Joseph T. Pearce, who cried the sale, and in whose possession they now are.
- Weber, George M.**, Worcester. Box, containing Musket, Rifle Balls, and Grape Shot, gathered on the ground on which Washington's army was encamped before going to Valley Forge. Also, a Rifleman's Axe or Tomahawk, plowed up at a spot where at that time was a spring at which the soldiers drank, but which entirely disappeared forty years ago. Large Chest, bearing the name, Barbara Brierlin, dated 1769. This was the property of the exhibitor's grandparents, Abraham and Elizabeth Weber. Abraham Weber served for a time in the Continental army, and died in 1844. This Chest, tradition says, was brought to this country from Germany before the Revolutionary war. During the war certain valuable goods were placed in it for safe keeping, and it, with these contents, was put in a hay stack. Certain parties, searching for the chest, discovered it by thrusting pointed sticks of hard wood into the stack, producing marks which it still bears. The chest was broken open and the contents confiscated.
- Wentz, Daniel**, Fort Washington. Camp Axe, found on the camp ground, near St. Thomas' Church, at Fort Washington.
- Yeakle, Daniel**, Chestnut Hill. Powder Horn, used during the Revolution by an ancestor of exhibitor.

CLASS V.

RELICS OF THE WAR OF 1812.

- Beck, Mrs. John P.**, Centre Square. Flute, and Manuscript Music, used by Henry Beck (near Easton), who was a fifer in the war of 1812.
- Cassel, Isaac R.**, North Wales. Sword of the War of 1812.
- Cope, O. W.**, Hatboro. Sword of Commodore Isaac Hull, commander of the Constitution in the action with the Guerriere. The property of William Wade, Horsham.
- Cox, Mrs. Charles**, Ambler. Two Flints, formerly the property of Charles Cox, a veteran of the war of 1812.
- Davis, Jesse B.**, Norristown. Sword, used in the War of 1812 by John Llewellyn, the exhibitor's grandfather.
- Dorworth, Joseph H.**, Norritonville. Pistol, belonging to the First Troop of Montgomery county, in the War of 1812.
- Keech, Jacob**, Lower Merion. Pistol and Knife, used in the War of 1812 by John Llewellyn, the exhibitor's grandfather.
- O'Bryan, Mrs. J. Duross**, Ardmore. Bayonet of 1812. Canister Shot, very old.
- Slifer, Dr. H. F.**, North Wales. Two Swords of the War of 1812.
- Slingluff, Mrs. W. F.**, Norristown. Canteen, used in the War of 1812.
- Smith, James B.**, Jenkintown. Drum, used in the War of 1812 by George Servis
- Sower, F. D.**, Norristown. Sword, used by the troops in 1812.
- Thomas, Mrs. Abel**, Royersford. Snuff-box, used in the War of 1812.

Wolf, Mrs. Anstina, Plymouth. Jacket, worn in the War of 1812 by exhibitor's father, Daniel Streeper, late of Barren Hill.

CLASS VI.

RELICS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

Keech, Jacob, Lower Merion. Mexican Cartridge, taken at the battle of Monterey.

Lower, George, Flourentown. Mexican Bridle, rein of hair, peculiar bit, mounting of silver. This Bridle was brought from Mexico, at the close of the war, by the exhibitor, who arrived at Philadelphia, on his return, on July 23, 1848.

CLASS VII.

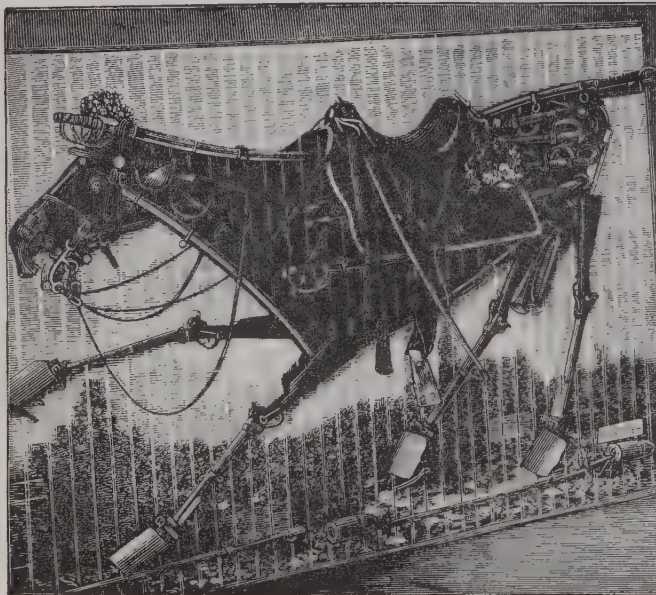
RELICS OF THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

Anders, George H., Norritonville. Buttons, from the late war. Balls, picked from the battle fields of the late war.

Bolton, Levi, Norristown. Three leaden Mortars, made from Rebel bullets.

Cassel, Isaac R., North Wales. Bowie Knife of the late war. Piece of the Rebel iron-clad, Merrimac. Cartridge, found on the battle field of Antietam. Book, found on the battle field of Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863.

Calvary Post, No. 35, G. A. R., Philadelphia. Wooden Figure of a Horse, with arms and equipments used in the cavalry service in the late war.



HORSE MADE UP OF MILITARY ARMS.

Evans, William G., Norristown. Soldier's Cap, from the battle of the Wilderness, 1864. Belt, Cartridge Box, and Knapsack, 1863.

Hilles, Lizzie, Port Kennedy. Sabre, used by Henry Clay Moore in the late war.

Holstein, Mrs. Dr. George W., Bridgeport. Pair of Dice Boxes and Knife. These articles were made in Libby Prison by Lieut. T. Dewees.

Jones, Charles W., Conshohocken. Sabre, taken from the battle field of Antietam.

Jones, Percy, Conshohocken. Sword, picked up on the battle field of Antietam. Minie Ball, found on Gettysburg battle field.

Loch, John W., Norristown. Sword, found on the field of Gettysburg.

Moore, Mrs. Nathan, Centre Square. Flag, Knife, and Relics of the war for the Union.

Morrison, Mrs., Conshohocken. Two Knives, taken from the Rebels in the Civil War.

Peterman, Frederick, Collegeville. Block of stone from the blown-up mine at Petersburg, Va., July 30, 1864.

Powers, John, Norristown. Confederate Dagger, captured by Charles F. McKenna, Company E., Forty-Fifth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Rudy, John, Norristown. Lamp made from a bomb shell found at Gettysburg. The brass piece on the top was made from the side of a Rebel drum.

Schall, Col. Edward, Norristown. A Shell, from the battle field of Fredricksburg. A Cannon Ball, from the battle field of Antietam. A Whitworth Projectile, from Sulphur Springs, Va., picked up immediately after it had been fired. Two large Knives, nearly the size of a cutlass, captured at the battle of Roanoke, N. C. A Sword, worn by Col. Edwin Schall, at the battle of Cold Harbor, Va., when killed. A Small Box, made out of wood from the bridge at Antietam, and containing small and large balls picked up on the day of the battle. A Bugle, carried by a Captain of the Fifty-first Regiment Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers.

Slifer, Dr. H. F., North Wales. Two Swords from the Rebellion. Relics of the battle of Gettysburg. Confederate Sword.

Stein, Mrs. R., Norristown. Gun, used in the battle of Antietam.

Stevens, Henry A., Norristown. Revolving Rifle, ten-shooter, captured by Captain D. L. Stevens, of the six-gun battery of the United States ship Mississippi, under Farragut, on the right of the river, below New Orleans, in a hand-to-hand encounter, on April 25, 1862.

Walker, E. H., Jarrettown. Canteen, from the late war. Picture, Frame, made in Virginia during the late war. Bayonet, from Petersburg, 1865. Head of a Standard, from Richmond. Caue, from City Point, in the late war.

Ziegler, Elmer R., Kulpsville. United States Badge, found on Kulp's Hill, Gettysburg.

CLASS VIII.

IMPLEMENTS OF EARLY HUSBANDRY.

Cassel, Abraham H., Harleysville. Ancient Cross-cut Saw, which, with its handles, was forged out of a solid piece of steel, on a common anvil, by an ingenious blacksmith, in early colonial times. Its history is known for one hundred and fifty years. Hand-saw, formerly the property of Hupert Cassel, a famous carpenter of Worcester, and the grandfather of the exhibitor. At least one hundred years old.

Comly, J. J., Horsham. Plow, with wooden mould board.

Custer, Philip B., Norritonville. Sickle, over one hundred years old.

Fryer, Henry S., West Point. Pruning Knife, brought from Germany. One hundred and sixty-five years old.

Heebner, John S., West Point. Wooden Fork.

Homer, Morris, Willow Grove. Sickle, for cutting grain. "D. J. 1750," cut on the handle.

Jones, Margaret H., Oak Lane. Seed Chest, nearly two hundred years old.

Kettarar, Roman, Somerton. Old-fashioned hand-made Hoe. Yoke, one hundred and thirty years old. Old Tree Clipper.

Kriebel, Septimus A., Kulpsville. Sickle, one hundred years old.

Loos, Mrs., Norristown. Hoe, one hundred and thirty years old.

Roberts, Septimus, Whitpain. Scythe, Sickle, Forks, Rake, Hoe, Wooden Shovel and Flail; very old.

Williams, Thomas, Pittville. Plow; used in Delaware, O., up to the year 1812. It is marked "1776," and is supposed to have been made at that time.

Young, Samuel, Sr., Norristown. Sickle, one hundred and twenty-five years old.

CLASS IX.

IMPLEMENTS AND ARTICLES OF HOUSEHOLD USE IN EARLY TIMES.

Ambler, Aaron, Norritonville. Shovels and Tongs. Snuffer Tray. Dust Brush.

Anders, Amos S., Norritonville. Spinning-wheel and Reel.

Beer, Rosa, East Perkiomen. Parlor Lamp of ye olden time, formerly owned by Mrs. Kemmerer, great-grandmother of the exhibitor.

- Berkheimer, Mrs. John**, Broad Axe. Candle Stand, very old-fashioned.
- Beyer, Benjamin**, Norritown. Wool Wheel and Spinning-wheel. Sausage Stuffer.
- Bickel, Mrs. E. B.**, Norritown. Flax Hackle, one hundred and six years old. Property of Thomas Dorworth.
- Bickel, Mrs.**, Norritown. Candlestick. Spinning-wheel.
- Bisson, Jane**, Three Tuns. Pair Brass Candlesticks, 75 years old.
- Blackfan, Miss**, Norritown. Pair Tongs and Shovel, 100 years old.
- Branin, George**, Jenkintown. Wool Card.
- Branin, Mrs. George**, Jenkintown. Candlestick and Candle, very old.
- Brunner, Miss Mary**, Worcester. Old Basket.
- Buck, William J.**, Jenkintown. Warming Pan of Sir William Kelth, of Horsham. Mentioned in a bill of sale, May 21, 1726, to Dr. Thomas Graeme, as a "Bed Pan." Bought by J. E. Buck, in 1860, at David Lloyd's sale.
- Cassel, Abraham H.**, Harleyville. Iron Lamp and Rack.
- Conard, Edward B.**, Port Kennedy. Two Barrels, hollowed from logs.
- Cope, O. W.**, Hathoro. Spice Mill of the seventeenth century. The property of William Wade, Horsham. Coffee Mill, used in Gen. George Washington's family while living at Mount Vernon. The property of Molinda Wood, Philadelphia.
- Corson, Mrs. Dr. Hiram**, Conshohocken. Shovels and Tongs.
- Cresson, Mary J.**, Norritown. Warming Pan, age unknown.
- Custer, Philip B.**, Norritown. Spinning Wheel, 106 years old. Lard Lamp, supposed to be 100 years old.
- Davis, Jesse B.**, Norritown. Warming Pan, 120 years old.
- Davis, John J.**, Jenkintown. Crimping Machine, brought from Wales, many years ago, by the mother of the exhibitor.
- Diamant, Mrs. Amos**, Royersford. Candlestick, 155 years old. Spinning Wheel.
- Dotts, George**, West Point. Ancient Lamp.
- Eberle, The Misses**, Oak Lane. Brass Candlestick.
- Ebersole, Mrs. S. A.**, Hartranft. Spinning Wheel.
- Elkington, George**, Blue Bell. Brass Warming Pan (to contain coal for warming beds), 103 years old.
- Emory, John**, Cheltenham. Bed Warmer.
- Famous, Andrew S.**, Norritown. Old Snuffers. Four Hackles.
- Felton, Mrs. Joseph**, Jenkintown. Snuffers, date 1707.
- Felty, Samuel**, Jenkintown. Tongs and Iron Lamp, brought from Germany before the Revolution.
- Fisher, Jacob**, Worcester. Bellows.
- Freedley, Mrs. Dr.**, Conshohocken. Basin and Ewer, over 100 old.
- Fryer, Henry S.**, Skippack. Hanging Lamp, 100 years old. Flax Hackle, supposed to be 200 years old.
- Gotwals, Abraham**, Belfry. Tongs, 100 years old.
- Gotwals, William K.**, Fairview Village. Spinning Wheel, marked "I. B., 1760," made by I. Rosen, at Fairview, in the year 1760.
- Grimley, Miss Olivia K.**, Schwenksville. Fire Tongs, 100 years old. Have been in the Benner and Bergey families, and are now owned by John Batcliff.
- Grimley, Solomon K.**, Schwenksville. Old Hackle. Belonged to B. Halteman in 1714, to Solomon Grimley in 1761, and to B. Scholl from 1808 to 1866, when it was purchased by the exhibitor.
- Harvey, Mrs. J. J. C.**, Jenkintown. Tinder Box.
- Heebner, John S.**, West Point. Spinning Wheel, dated 1741. Tape Loom, ancient.
- Hellerman, Mrs. Josiah**, Cheltenham. Foot Warmer, over 100 years old.
- Hendricks, Mrs. Jesse**, North Wales. Two Flax Hackles, made in 1772.
- Holland, Mrs. Eliza**, Jarrettown. Pair Candlesticks, 75 years old.
- Hughes, Mrs. William**, King-of-Prussia. Candlesticks over 100 years old.
- Hunsticker, A. Jr.**, Collegeville. Bed Warming Pan, formerly belonging to Wright A. Bringham.
- Jones, Mrs. Ann C.**, Spring Mill. Hand Loom.
- Kemery, C. M.**, Abrahams. Wood Stove Rake, known to be 203 years old.
- Kettlar, Roman**, Somerton. Five old Lamps. Self-heating Flat-iron. Foot Heater and Bed Heater. Tongs and Poker. Four different kinds of Candlesticks. Old-fashioned Washing Machine.
- Kneas, Miss Ella**, Norritown. Round and Oval Paper Boxes, of various colors, formerly the property of Mrs. Savilla Root, of Worcester, a great-great-aunt of the exhibitor.
- Kohl George M.**, Jenkintown. Snuffers, used in the days of tallow candles.
- Lowe, Mrs. T. S. C.**, Norritown. Old Brass Candlestick.
- Lukens, Mrs. Jawood**, Conshohocken. Brass Candlestick, Snuffers and Tray.
- McCabe, Mrs. Thomas**, Oaks. Candlestick, 120 years old, brought from England.
- McClain, Mrs. John**, Hartranft. Spinning Wheel, over 100 years old.
- Mann, John H.**, Horsham. Foot Stove, 75 years old.
- Markley, Margaret**, Fairview Village. Clothes Brush.
- Mather, C.**, Jenkintown. Warming Pan, very ancient.
- Meredith, Mrs. Samuel**, Norritown. Old-fashioned Warming Pan and two brass Candlesticks, brought from England many years ago.
- Miles, Mrs. Isabella**, Gulf Mills. Bed Warmer.
- Mills, Mrs. Jane**, Norritown. Clothes Brush, over 130 years in the family.
- Morgan, Mrs. James**, Ardmore. Bellows, over 100 years old.
- Nyce, George S.**, Frederick. Old-fashioned Lard Dip (Lamp), 130 years old. Cotton Spindle, 125 years old.
- O'Neill, Samuel**, Norritown. Spinning Wheel.
- Owen, Mrs. William W.**, Norritown. Brass Candlestick, 150 years old; owned by Miss Shearer.
- Paiste, Robert**, Norritown. Pair brass Candlesticks, 100 years old.
- Pawling, Mrs. Dr.**, Norritown. Spinning Wheel, Reel and Spindle.
- Pechta, John W.**, King-of-Prussia. Candlesticks. Lamp, from France; very old.
- Pomeroy, Mrs. H. S.**, Norritown. Pair of Candlesticks.
- Prince, Lewis**, Norritown. Scissors.
- Rambo, Mrs. Wallace**, Oaks. Candlestick, originally owned by Mrs. Lane; 125 years old.
- Reid, Mrs. Dr. John K.**, Conshohocken. Bellows, 75 years old. Warming Pan.
- Roberts, Lloyd**, Norritown. Clothes Brush, 150 years old.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Warming Pan, very old. Tobacco Box of pumpkin, 75 years old or more. Two copper Candlesticks, very old.
- Rogers, Mrs.**, Norritown. Two Candlesticks. Shovel and Tongs.
- Rotzell, Mrs.**, Norritown. Snuffers, 100 years old.
- Schaefer, Miss**, Norritown. Snuffer and Snuffer Box. Brass Candlestick. Iron Candlestick. Steel and Flint. Hearth Brush. Pair of Bellows.
- Scheetz, Mrs. Frank**, Flourtown. Pair of Bellows, 1791.
- Searfoss, Mrs.**, Jenkintown. Sweeping Brush, old.
- Shaw, C. H.**, Jeffersonville. Tinder Box.
- Shay, Mrs. Edward**, Three Tuns. Spinning Wheel, 100 years old.
- Shoemaker, Robert**, Shoemakertown. Warming Pan, 1780.
- Shoffner, Misses**, Norritown. Two brass Candlesticks, 50 years old.
- Shultz, John**, Norritown. Basket, 80 years old.
- Slicher, Mrs.**, Norritown. Two brass Candlesticks, 100 years old.
- Stingluff, Mrs. William H.**, Norritown. Bellows and Brush, 50 years old. Spinning Wheel and Reel.
- Smith, Alfred**, Spring House. Spinning Wheel.
- Spencer, Mrs. Ella**, Jenkintown. Brass Candlestick.
- Springer Brothers**, Kulpsville. Two Candlesticks.
- Styer, Aaron**, Blue Bell. Two Warming Pans.
- Summers, Aaron H.**, East Greenville. Flax Hackle, dated 1776.
- Teas, George S.**, Horsham. Warming Pan, over 100 years old.
- Traut, Louis**, Jenkintown. Flax Hatchel, bearing date of 1765. Brass Snuffers, 160 years old.
- Walker, E. H.**, Jarrettown. Flax Hackle.
- Walton, Harry C.**, Blue Bell. Glass Candlestick.
- Welkel, Mrs. Jacob**, Collegeville. Old iron Lamp.
- Williams, Mrs.**, Fitzwatertown. Two Spinning Wheels.
- Yeakle, S. Y.**, Norritown. Tape Machine, 125 years old.
- Young, Miss Annie**, Lower Merion. Brass Candlestick, brought from Wales, and presented to Ariadne Young one hundred and twenty-five years ago.
- Zimmerman, Esther**, Norritown. Spinning Wheel, with the Twist of Flax. Swift and Reel, over 100 years old. Hackle, Tow,

and Twist of Flax. The Hackle came over in the ship with William Penn's surveyors.

Zimmerman, Mrs. Lorenzo, Norristown. Sweeping Brush, over 50 years old.

Zimmerman, Sylvester, Blue Bell. Wool Hackle, brought to this country by Benjamin Eastburn, a surveyor in William Penn's party, at the time of the settlement of Philadelphia. Said Benjamin Eastburn was the exhibitor's great-great-grandfather. The Hackle has been passed from one generation to another, until it reached the exhibitor from the hands of her mother in the year 1842.

CLASS X.

KITCHEN FURNITURE AND COOKING UTENSILS IN USE 100 YEARS AGO AND PEWTER WARE.

Ambler, Aaron, Norritonville. Pewter Plates, 110 years old.

Anders, Mrs. George S., Kulpville. Pewter Sugar Bowl.

Anders, William H., Kulpville. Tea Pot, over 100 years old.

Apple, Mrs. John S., Kulpville. Copper Tea Kettle, 150 years old.

Ashbridge, Mrs. J., Bryn Mawr. Pewter Plate, over 100 years old.

Baker, Mrs. William, Centre Square. Copper Tea Kettle, said to be 300 years old.

Barr, T. P., East Greenville. Pepper Box, 1682.

Bartman, Mrs. Mary R., Trappe. Pewter Plate, 100 years old.

Bean, Mrs. Margaret, Norristown. Earthen Dish, 100 years old.

Bean, Mrs. Sarah, Fairview Village. Six Pewter Plates, 80 years old.

Bernhart Miss Maggie, East Greenville. Iron Kettle, 150 years old.

Beyer, Benjamin, Norritonville. Bread Tray. Copper Kettle. Coffee Pot.

Bickel, Mrs. E. B., Norristown. Six Pewter Plates, over 100 years old.

Bickel, Mrs., Norristown. Copper Kettle, 150 years old. Gird-iron, 75 years old. Bread Waiter.

Boorse, John C., Kulpville. Earthen Dish, made of common clay, burnt, fifteen inches in diameter, glazed inside, and decorated with brown, yellow and green flowers, the stems and outlines of flowers marked by grooves. Around the rim is the inscription, in English: "Be Ashamed I advice thee Most if one Learneth Thee what Thou not Knoweth, the Ingenious is Accounted Brave but the Clumsy None Desire to have 1762." The outside of the dish is not glazed or decorated.

Bosch, Enos, Norristown. Pewter Dish, over 150 years old. Property of Mrs Yocum.

Brant, Miss Emma, Limerick Square. Pewter Tea Pot and two Pewter Plates, 150 years old. Formerly the property of the Custer and Grubb families.

Brooke Mrs., Norristown. Pewter Plates.

Brownback, Mrs. Edward, Trappe. Copper Tea Kettle, nearly 100 years old.

Buck, James H., Norristown. Dough Tray, 150 years old. Belonged to exhibitor's great-grandfather; then to his grandmother, Polly Buck; next to his father, John Buck; now to the exhibitor. Has never been outside of Montgomery County; has been in use over one hundred years in Norristown.

Buckman, Mrs. Thomas, Jenkintown. Two Pewter Tea Pots. Came over in the ship "Welcome."

Buchler, Mrs. Elizabeth, Norristown. Waiter and Bread Tray, dated 1715.

Carson, Mary Cook, Norristown. Three Pewter Dishes, used in the family of Samuel Burns, a Revolutionary soldier.

Cassel, Abraham H., Harleysville. Pewter Plate, from the Saur family. Grid-iron, used in olden times to broil fish and meat over coals. Old Tripod, used for setting a pan or kettle. Dutch Oven much used for baking, etc., before plate or cooking stoves were invented.

Cassel, Isaac R., North Wales. Knife. Belonged to exhibitor's great-grandfather.

Cassel, Mrs. James, Belfry. Pewter Mug, over 100 years old.

Cope, O. W., Hatboro. Pewter Dish, brought from Germany about 1740, by the Styer family.

Corson, Mrs. Dr. Hiram, Conshohocken. Old Copper Kettle. Old Knife and Spoon Boxes, formerly owned by Owen Jones, of Wynnewood, and loaned by his great-granddaughter.

Craven, Mrs. Alice, Davis Grove. Coffee Pot.

Creighton, Mrs., Norristown. Two Dishes, very old.

Cresson, Mary J., Norristown. Pewter Plate. Has been in the Leedom family 100 years.

Culbert, Mrs. Joseph W., Collegeville. Copper Kettle, over 100 years old.

Davison, Mrs. May, Shoemakertown. A slate Tea and Water Pot, 120 years old.

Dearolf, Mrs. Tillie, Norristown. Spice Box, one hundred and fifty years in the family.

Dettra, Mrs. John, Norristown. Pewter Cream Pitcher, brought from Germany; 100 years old.

Dietrich, Mrs. John, Collegeville. Pewter Plate, from Germany. Copper Cake Mould, over 100 years old.

Dismant, Mrs. Amos, Royersford. Two large Pewter Plates.

Dorworth, Joseph H., Norritonville. Tea Canister, brought to this country, in 1782.

Drake, Mrs. Aram, Kulpville. Pewter inkstand, dated 1749.

Edwards, Mrs. Elizabeth, Kulpville. Pewter Mug, bearing initials "S. H."; 150 years old. Meat Knife, from Wales; 200 years old.

Edwards, Mrs. Humphrey W., Kulpville. Six Tea Spoons, Pewter Cups and Saucers; over 100 years old.

Evans, Mrs. Frank, Centre Square. Old Pewter Tea Pot.

Felty, Samuel, Jenkintown. Small Copper Kettle and Coffee Mill, brought from Germany before the Revolution.

Fetterolf, Daniel G., Kulpville. Pewter Plate, 1718.

Fitzwater, Mrs. Joseph, Port Providence. Pewter Plate, 100 years old. Originally used by Fanny Brower as a meat plate.

Fox, Mrs. Jacob, East Greenville. Tea Kettle, nearly 200 years old.

Fryer, Mrs. Barney, Skippack. Part of Pewter Dinner Set, supposed to be 106 years old, and is the property of the exhibitor: Two soup dishes, two meat plates, four dinner plates, sugar bowl, and salt cup.

Garrigues, Mrs., Norristown. Pewter Plates.

Garsed, Mrs. Robert P., Norristown. Kettle and Pan.

Geyer, Mrs. Charles, Worcester. Pewter Tray, dated 1748.

Gotwals, Abraham, Belfry. Pewter Dish, Colander, and Tea Canister, each 100 years old.

Grtffen, Mrs. Samuel, Oaks. Tea Kettle, 100 years old.

Grimley, Miss Olivia K., Schwenksville. Pewter Tea Pot, large Plate, three small Plates, and two Dishes. Belonged to Frederick and Elizabeth Reimer, from 1730 to 1761; to Solomon and Elizabeth Grimley from 1761 to 1806; to Elizabeth Grimley, widow, from 1806 to 1821; to Frederick Grimley, from 1821 to 1843; to Amos Grimley, from 1843 to 1866; to Solomon K. Grimley, since 1866. Six small Pewter and two large Funeral Bread and Wine Plates. Belonged to Peter Umstead in 1734, and remained in the Umstead family until 1856, when they came into the hands of Lydia Gottshall, who sold them in 1883 to Solomon K. Grimley. Mr. Grimley furnishes the following information: "The Funeral Plates measure 14 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches in diameter. In olden times people sometimes had to drive five and ten miles to the church and burying place with their dead. It was customary to provide bread, cake and wine on such occasions for the refreshment of those in attendance. The daughter of a principal farmer was selected, who took a large pewter plate, laden with bread and 'cakes,' and stationed herself on the side of the path by which the procession was to pass from the church to the grave. A young man, son of one of the farmers of the first class, held a large plate, upon which was a bottle of wine or whiskey and a wine cup, and took a position opposite the young woman. Each person in passing took a piece of bread or cake from the maiden, and then turned to the other side and took a sip of wine from the cup, which the youth replenished from time to time. My grandmother, Mary Keely, who died in 1848, aged 85 years 10 months and 25 days, told me that she was on one occasion chosen to hold the bread plate, and that it was deemed a great honor to be a Leichenwärter, or funeral waiter." Pewter Coffee Pot and Cream Jug. Belonged to Henry Pawling, to 1734; to Henry Pawling, Jr., to 1757; to Joseph Pawling, to 1787; to Rachel Pawling, the great-grandmother of the present owner, to 1828; to Isaac Grimley, to 1872; to Solomon K. Grimley, since 1872. Pewter Drinking Cup. Belonged to Henry Pawling, to 1734; then in the hands of C. Pawling, until 1757; to Andrew Ziegler, to 1825; to Dillman Kolb and his children, to 1880, when it came into possession of Josiah B. Markley, from whom Solomon K. Grimley purchased it in 1883. Two Pewter Dishes. Belonged to H. Deetz

- in 1725; to the Nace family until 1883, when Solomon K. Grimley purchased it. Pewter Dish. In Deetz family from 1725 to 1883, when Israel Hildebrand became owner, and sold it to Solomon K. Grimley. Pewter Plate. Belonged to Wilhelm Gerges and his descendants from 1725 to 1883, when, upon the death of Sabina Gerges, the great-great-granddaughter of the original owner, Francis S. Schwenk purchased it, and disposed of it to Solomon K. Grimley. This was highly valued as an heirloom in the Gerges family, and was never used to any extent. Pewter Sugar Bowl. Belonged in 1725 to George Heilig, from whom it descended to his daughter, Margaret, and to his granddaughter. The latter gave it to Hannah Boyer when ten years old, seventy years ago. In 1884 Solomon K. Grimley purchased it. Pewter Tea Pot. In the Kolb family from 1725 to 1882. F. Frederick then became its owner, and sold it to Solomon K. Grimley in 1883. Earthen Sugar Bowl. Belonged to Andrew Young in 1725, and remained in the Young family until 1884, when, upon the death of Susanna Young, Solomon K. Grimley purchased it. Small Ladle. Owned successively by — Umstead, 1725 to 1780; Sophia Umstead, daughter, 1780 to 1840; Daniel Miller, 1840 to 1883; and Daniel Lewis Miller, son of the foregoing, who purchased it from his father's estate in 1883. Large Ladle. Belonged to Jacob Cassel until 1790; then to his daughter, Mrs. Daniel Pannepacker, until 1883, when Solomon K. Grimley purchased it. Copper Tea Kettle. Belonged to Hieronimus Hause from 1725 to 1775; to Peter Pool, until 1810; to Jacob Kolb, to 1870; to Catharine T. Miller, to 1883; to Solomon K. Grimley, since. Two Pewter Tea Pots, three large Plates, two small Plates and a Wine Cup. Belonged to Hieronimus Hause, 1728 to 1775; to Peter Pool, 1775 to 1783; to Thomas Poole, 1783 to 1810; to Catharine Pool, 1810 to 1867; to Catharine T. Miller, now widow, 1867 to 1883; since 1883 to Solomon K. Grimley. Six Plates. Belonged to the Grubb family in 1734; since to J. Kline and F. Walt, and now to Solomon K. Grimley. A large and small Dish. Have been owned by Martin Kolb (1730), Dillman Kolb, Isaac Kolb and Josiah B. Markley; present owner, Solomon K. Grimley. Two large Funeral Bread and Wine Plates. Belonged to Samuel Kepler, and to Maria Schwenk (1815); now owned by Solomon K. Grimley. Six Plates. Owned by Jacob Cassel (1775) his daughter, and Daniel Pannepacker, to 1884; at present by Solomon K. Grimley. Five Table Spoons and a Small Plate. Owned by Heinrich Kolb in 1770, by the Krupp family to 1883, and now by Solomon K. Grimley. Eight Pewter Tea Spoons. Belonged to B. Halteman in 1714, and to his descendants to 1883, when Solomon K. Grimley came in possession. Three Pewter Dishes. In the Rhoads family from 1780 to 1883, when Solomon K. Grimley became owner.
- Grubb, Mrs. Sophia**, Ziegler'sville. Heavy Pewter Plate; cost \$90 in Continental currency.
- Hallman, Mrs. Lewis**, Hartranft. Pewter Plate, age not known but very old.
- Hallowell, Mrs. C. R.**, Norristown. Pewter Plate, owned by Jacob Ritter, years ago.
- Hallowell, Peter**, Abington. Pewter Urn, 150 years old.
- Hart, Jennie**, Hatboro. Wooden Bowl, 100 years old; once belonged to Edith Buckalew.
- Hellings, Mr.**, Hartranft. Carving Knife and Fork, over 115 years old.
- Hoffman, John D.**, Douglass. Pewter Dish, 30 years old.
- Hoffman, Mrs. Julia**, Fairview Village. Small Pewter Dish, 100 years old.
- Hughes, Mrs. William**, King-of-Prussia. Pewter Mug, over 100 years old.
- Hunsicker, Mrs. J. R.**, Norristown. Pewter Plate, over 200 years old.
- Iredell, Phæbe**, Norristown. Two large Pewter Plates, 100 years old.
- Jarrett, Mrs. Annie**, Ambler. Two Pewter Plates and a Mug.
- Jones, Mrs. Ann C.**, Spring Mill. Two Pewter Plates.
- Jones, Mrs. Charles W.**, Conshohocken. Pewter Plate, brought from London by Jane Lukens, 1750.
- Jones, John C.**, Lower Merion. Pewter Plate, brought from Wales by the Jones family.
- Jones, Josiah**, Oak Lane. Copper Tea Kettle, about 100 years old.
- Jones, Margaret H.**, Oak Lane. Bread Tray, 100 years old.
- Jones, Mrs. Sarah**, Gulf Mills. Pewter Plates.
- Jordan, Mrs. John Jr.**, Spring Mill. Coffee Mill, formerly used by the Moravian Sisters at Bethlehem, Pa.; very old.
- Keech, Mrs. Joseph**, Lower Merion. Two Pewter Plates, 160 years old, brought from Germany by exhibitor's maternal grandfather, Christopher Schubert.
- Kehr, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Broad Axe. Pewter Plate, 85 years old.
- Kenderdine, Mrs. Lavina**, North Wales. Pewter Tea Pot, 1700.
- Kerbaugh, Benjamin**, Three Tuns. Apple Parer Machine, 100 years old.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Two old Coffee Mills. Two old Forks. Sausage Cutter. Old-fashioned Frying Pan and Wheat Roaster. Apple Peeler, old. Bread Toaster. Meat Fork. Butter Tray. Old Tea Kettle and Tea Pot.
- Kibbichouse, Mrs. Kate**, Blue Bell. Pewter Plates and Mug, over 100 years old.
- Klair, Hester**, Norristown. Pewter Dish, brought from Germany by the exhibitor's great-grandmother.
- Kneas, Miss Ella**, Norristown. Brass Kettle, over 100 years old.
- Knight, Miss C. E.**, Ambler. Pewter Cream Jug, 125 years old.
- Knott, J. Henry**, Three Tuns. Old Pewter Plate.
- Kohl, George M.**, Jenkintown. Nine Pewter Dishes. Used in the family of the late Nicholas Kohl, 1817 to 1830. Pewter Plate, 120 years old. Once the property of Mary Conard, the great-grandmother of the present owner's wife. Pewter Tankard, age unknown. Deep Basin, 1759.
- Kriebel, Abraham K.**, Kulpsville. Tea Pot, Coffee Pot, and Pitcher, over 100 years old, Ironing Board, dated 1750; initials, "J. K."
- Kriebel, Mrs. Andrew K.**, Kulpsville. Wooden Plate.
- Landes, Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. Pewter Plates.
- Leister, Mrs. David**, Douglass. Bread Dish, 100 years old.
- Lightfoot, Ellen**, King-of-Prussia. Knife, brought from Germany; 93 years old.
- Logan, Jane**, Jenkintown. Preserving Kettle, bell metal; in use since 1800.
- Logue, George**, Norristown. Colander, made of clay; used one hundred years ago by the grandmother of the exhibitor.
- Lowe, Mrs. T. S. C.**, Norristown. Carving Knife and Fork, and Horn Spoon, 100 years old. Pewter Platter, brought over in the Mayflower, 1620. Pewter Cream Jug, 1776.
- Lukens, Mrs. Jawood**, Conshohocken. Old English Toasting Fork, ivory handle.
- Lukens, Mrs. Lewis A.**, Conshohocken. Pewter Plate.
- Mancill, Frank S.**, Port Kennedy. Pewter Sugar Bowl and Milk Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Markley, Freundschaft, The**—Bread Dish, Tea Caddy, Pie Dishes, Pewter Plates, and Mug, Wedding presents to Abraham Ber-tolet, 1788. The pewter is in perfect state of preservation; the large plate, twenty inches in diameter, is extremely fine.
- Mather, Miss Mary W.**, Jenkintown. Potato Masher and Punch Stick, part of Susan Pierie's outfit, 1792.
- Mauck, Miss Addie**, Limerick Square. Pewter Cream Jug, 100 years old.
- Mensch, Dr. James G.**, Pennsburg. Pewter Plate, made in London in 1748.
- Metz, Mrs. Oliver**, Fairview Village. Pewter Meat Plate.
- Miles, Mrs. Isabella**, Gulf Mills. Frying Pan.
- Miller, Mrs. Catharine T.**, Trappe. Iron Fork, with initials and date carved, "C. E. 1786."
- Miller, Mrs. Matilda**, West Point. Pewter Dishes, and Cream Jug.
- Money, Mrs. Samuel**, Norristown. Buckwheat Cake Shovel, 1792.
- Moyer, Mrs. Daniel**, Frederick. Three Pewter Plates, age unknown.
- Naille, Miss Annie M.**, Royersford. Two Pewter Plates, two sizes, 100 years old.
- Nice, Robert**, Branchtown. Two Pewter Plates.
- Noble, Elizabeth H.**, Abington. Fork, used by Benjamin Lay. Tea Caddy, tortoise shell, about 75 years old.
- Owen, Mrs. William W.**, Norristown. Pewter Plates. Pewter Bowl, with initials of Simon Shunk. It is now in possession of the seventh generation.
- Paiste, Robert**, Norristown. Large Pewter Plate, over 100 years old.
- Pannepacker, John B.**, Schwenksville. Copper Tea Kettle, 110 years old. Belonged to the great-grandmother of exhibitor.
- Pannepacker, Mrs. William C.**, Klein's. Pewter Cream Can

and Pewter Salt Cup. Owned in 1775 by the Hiestand family; now by Hannah Geisinger.

Pawling, Mrs. Dr., Norristown. Tea Caddy.

Philips, Thomas, Plymouth Meeting. Pewter Plate, 200 years old.

Quillman, Mrs. Philip, Norristown. Pewter Plate, 50 years old. Pewter Plates, 100 years old.

Ralston, Miss A. L., Norristown. Pewter Spoon, dug up from the fortifications at Valley Forge.

Rambo, Miss Sallie A., Swedeland. Tea Kettle, about 150 years old. Belonged to the exhibitor's great-great-grandmother, Polly Ague. Pewter Plate, about 75 years old. Formerly owned by Mary Conaway.

Ramsey, Miss Sallie W., Swedeland. Pewter Plate, 75 years old. Formerly owned by the exhibitor's grandmother, Nancy Pugh-Bell metal Kettle, 175 years old. Formerly belonged to the exhibitor's great-great-grandmother, Polly Rowland. Pepper Box, about 150 years old. Formerly belonged to Katie Rambo.

Rapp, Mrs. Thomas, Centre Square. Copper Kettle.

Rex, Mrs. Joseph, Ambler. Copper Tea Pot, 120 years old. Tea Pot, 90 years old.

Richardson, Margaret, Norristown. Knife Sharpener, brought from Germany one hundred years ago.

Righter, George, Abrams. Two Pewter Plates.

Roberts, Mrs. Mary R., Norristown. Pepper Box, 80 years old.

Roberts, Septimus, Whitpain. Two Pewter Plates, very old. Pewter Urn; family relic, at least 75 years old. Pot Hook, very old.

Rogers, Mrs., Norristown. Brass Tray.

Rosenberger, Mrs. Jacob, Kulpsville. Earthen Plate, with inscription, "Jos. Mogel, 1804."

Schaffer, Miss, Norristown. Earthen Jar, 150 years old.

Schildt, Charles, Worcester. Sugar Box.

Schlicker, Mrs., Norristown. Pewter Plate, 100 years old.

Schneider, Mrs. Mary, Norristown. Copper Tea Kettle, 125 years old.

Schultz, Joseph, Worcester. Old Pewter Plates.

Searfoss, Mrs., Jenkintown. Copper Kettle, used one hundred and forty years ago exclusively for preparing coffee.

Shaw, C. H., Jeffersonville. Stone Jug, in the Shaw family one hundred and sixty years.

Shay, Mrs. Edward, Three Tuns. Large Pewter Plate, 100 years old. Earthen Coffee Pot, 100 years old.

Shoemaker, Hannah Y., Norristown. Pewter Plate, 100 years old.

Slingluff Mrs. Charles, Norristown. Brass Skimmer and iron Ladle, 120 years old.

Slingluff, Mrs. William H., Norristown. Pewter Tea Pot, 1748. Set of Pewter Plates, in the family before the Revolution.

Slingluff, Mrs. W. F., Norristown. Spice Box, 200 years old.

Snyder, John H., Kulpsville. Traveling Knife and Fork, nearly 200 years old.

Snyder, Sophia, East Greenville. Earthen Dish, 1787.

Solomon, Mrs. William, Norristown. Old Knife.

Stauffer, Mrs. J. P., Swedeland. Pewter Plates.

Stewart, Mrs. Eliza, Abington. Pewter Dish, 200 years old.

Stewart, Mrs., Norristown. Mustard Pot, 80 years old.

Streeper, Miss Amanda, Broad Axe. Coffee Pot, very old.

Styer, Aaron, Blue Bell. Two large Pewter Plates, very fine and old; exact age not known.

Supplee, Myra, Bridgeport. Pewter Plates.

Teas, George S., Horsham. Six small Pewter Plates, large Pewter Plate, and Pewter Mug, all over 100 years old. Dutch Oven, over 100 years old.

Tripler, Mrs. Jacob L., Norristown. Iron Spider, 100 years old.

Tyson, Mrs. Sarah H., King-of-Prussia. Pewter Tankard.

Walker, E. H., Jarrettown. Iron Bread Toaster, 100 years old. Four buck-horn handled Knives, and Carving Knife and Fork.

Walker, Mary, Belfry. Tea Canister, 100 years old.

Walton, Mrs. Amos, Blue Bell. Earthen Dish, dated 1769. It is fifty-five and one-half inches in circumference, with two rows of inscriptions around the rim, and in the centre are painted three large tulips. It was first owned by Susanna Berkheimer, maiden name Hagner, to whom it was given as a bridal present by the manufacturer, whose name is not known. After her death it passed into the possession of her daughter, Catherine Fetzter, who died in 1884, after that it belonged to Eliza Fitzer, daughter of the last-named, till she

gave it to the exhibitor, in 1879. Eliza Fetzter died about a year ago, aged 79, being that last of the family, Pewter Plates, very old.

Walton, Elizabeth L., Horsham. Knife and Fork, 100 years old.

Warner, Elizabeth, Norristown. Old Jug.

Weikel, Mrs. Jacob, Collegeville. Large Pewter Plate.

Wentworth, Mrs. George B., North Wales. Five Pewter Plates, 225 years old; fifth generation, present owner.

Wingate, Hester K., Norristown. Two Pewter Plates, brought from Germany by exhibitor's great-grandmother.

Worrell, Elisha, Centre Square. Pewter Cups and Saucers.

Yost, Miss Julia, Collegeville. Wooden Plate, made of the knot of a tree one hundred years ago.

Zimmerman, Esther, Norristown. Pewter Plate, 120 years old.

CLASS XI.

ANTIQUÉ FURNITURE AND CLOCKS.

Aaron, Mrs. Phoebe P., Norristown. Money Chest brought over from Wales by one of the first settlers; a relic of the Pugh and William families.

Abraham, James, Abrams. Chair, with carved back.

Abraham, Thomas D., Abrams. Chair, brought over in vessel with William Penn.

Adams, Mrs. David, King-of-Prussia. Chair. Belonged to David Rittenhouse.

Ambler, Aaron, Norritonville. Looking glass, 110 years old. Andirons.

Ambler, David J., Ambler. Clock, 111 years old.

Amies, Mrs. Mary H., Spring House. Desk, formerly owned by Charles Thomson, first Secretary of Congress.

Anderson, Joseph, Abrams. Bureau, 100 years old.

Bacon, Charles L., Philadelphia. Brass Clock, formerly owned by Commodore Decatur.

Barrett, Adam, King-of-Prussia. Chair.

Bartman, Mrs. Mary R., Trappe. Toy Cradle, 100 years old.

Bean, Mrs. Margaret, Norristown. Chair, 100 years old.

Beldeman, Mrs. John, Hartranft. Andirons, over 100 years old.

Bell, Mrs., Centre Square. Child's Chair.

Bennett, Daniel R., Jenkintown. William Penn Chair.

Bickel, John W., Norristown. Mahogany Paper Case, unique; planned and built by the late Christopher Loeser, Esq., a member of the Montgomery and Schuylkill county bars. Now owned by the exhibitor.

Bosch, Enos, Norristown. Lady's Work Box and Work Table, 40 years old, nicely inlaid with brass.

Buckman, Mrs., Fitzwatertown. Mirror.

Carson, Mary Cook, Norristown. Child's Rocking Chair, nearly 200 years old.

Coates, Mrs. David, Norristown. Chair, said to be 125 years old. Looking-Glass 100 years old.

Coates, Miss E. R., Swedeland. Looking-Glass. Chair.

Cope, O. W., Hatboro'. Looking-Glass, with marks. Pair of Andirons.

Corson, Alan W., Norristown. Duke of Wellington's Desk.

Corson, Walter, H., Plymouth. Andirons.

Cresson, James, Norristown. Desk, descended twelve generations, was made in Ireland.

Cresson, Mary J., Norristown. Small Chair, made before the Revolutionary war.

Davis, Benjamin, Jenkintown. Money Chest, old.

Davis, John J., Jenkintown. Large high-backed walnut Chair, probably 200 years old.

DeHaven, David, King-of-Prussia. Secretary.

Dismant, Amos, Royersford. Arm Chair, 125 years old.

Doreworth, Joseph, H., Norritonville. Mirror, 101 years old.

Drake, Mrs. Aram, Kulpsville. Trunk, dated 1753; formerly of John Lukens

Earle, Mrs. Sallie, Norristown. Stool and Chair, 150 years old.

Eckard, James Read, Abington. Chair of Governor Bedford, the second Governor of Delaware.

Egbert, Hamilton, Bryn Mawr. Arm Chair, over 100 years old.

Egolf, Gus., Norristown. Corner Cupboard, 100 years old. Old Table. Old-fashioned Clock, made by Jacob D. Custer.

- Elkinton, Mrs. George**, Blue Bell. Iron Money Chest, over 200 years old, with a lock of intricate construction. It was formerly the property of the exhibitor's grandmother, Rebecca Courser, nee Sergeant, of Kingston-on-Hull, England.
- Emery, George**, Trappe. Breakfast Table, one hundred years in the family.
- Evans, Mrs. Ann**, Norristown. Table 150 years old.
- Evans, Mrs. Priscilla**, North Wales. Stool made by David Adams about the year 1770.
- Famous, Andrew S.**, Norritonville. Looking-Glass.
- Fillman, Mrs.**, Norristown. Small Chair, 115 years old.
- Fisher, Jacob**, Worcester. Small Cupboard, over 100 years old; made by a lady.
- Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox**, Norristown. Carved wooden Mantel Piece, from a house in Norristown, built by General Andrew Porter in 1795, and occupied by Andrew Knox and his descendants since 1821, which stands on the Knox or Selma farm. Pair of Andirons and brass Fender, about 80 years old; from the home of late Colonel Thomas P. Knox.
- Fraley, Miss Julia Ann**, Weldon. Pair of Stools, formerly property of Governor Mifflin.
- Garsed, Mrs. Robert P.**, Norristown. Mirror, in use more than one hundred years. Dining Table, claw-feet, 150 years old. Dining Table claw-feet with ball.
- Gilbert, Mrs. S.**, Norristown. Looking-Glass, 125 years old.
- Gotwals, William K.**, Fairview Village. Table and Arm Chair.
- Green, Mrs. Harry**, Davis Grove. Trunk.
- Griggs, Mrs. A. L.**, Norristown. Child's Chair, brought from Germany by George Conkle, in a vessel belonging to Myers Fisher, 110 years ago.
- Griggs, Miss Clara**, Norristown. Chair, 100 years old.
- Grimley, Miss Oliva K.**, Schwenkville. Two Andirons. Owned from 1725 to 1780 by—Umstead; from 1780 to 1840, by Sophia Umstead, daughter of the foregoing; from 1840 to 1878, by Daniel Miller; since 1878, by Solomon K. Grimley. Corner Cupboard, 1776.
- Haas, Frederick, Sr.**, Jeffersonville. Chest of Drawers; has been in the family nearly one hundred years.
- Hallowell, Miss E. L.**, Swedeland. A Stool, made from part of a secretary obtained from William Penn by Thomas Lloyd, first Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania, an ancestor of its present owner, Miss Eliza Stewart, of Norristown.
- Hallowell, Mrs. R. T.**, Swedeland. Box, made from a portion of the Treaty Elm, by John Hansell, a workman in the saw-mill in which parts of the elm were sawed into veneering.
- Hallowell, Dr. William**, Norristown. Arm Chair, 150 years old.
- Hamel, George Jr.**, Jenkintown. Child's Chair.
- Hampton, John**, Abrams. Chair; family relic for one hundred and thirty-five years.
- Hampton, Powell**, Bridgeport. Two Chairs, 100 years old.
- Hange, Mrs. M.**, Worcester. Looking-Glass, 100 years old.
- Harper, Charles**, Jenkintown. Child's Chair, 75 years old.
- Harry, Miss Mary**, Norristown. Stand, over 100 years old.
- Heebner, Mrs. C. B.**, Collegeville. Arm Chair, 100 years old.
- Heimbach, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Frederick. Foot Rest, 95 years old.
- Heller, Miss Clara**, Norristown. Mirror, 180 years old.
- Hendrickson, Rev. W. C.**, Norristown. Table, made in 1765.
- Highley, Miss M. P.**, Norristown. Two Dog Irons, 100 year old.
- Homer, J. W. A.**, Norristown. Toy Chest, 100 years old. Chair, over 100 years old.
- Hoover, Hiram C.**, Hartranft. Old Chair, rocker, over 200 years old. Chair, over 100 years old. Andirons, over 100 years old.
- Houpt, Mrs. George**, Three Tuns. Old family Work Stand.
- Hunsicker, Mrs. J. R.**, Norristown. Chair, over 200 years old.
- Hurst, Miss Anna**, Norristown. Arm Rocking Chair, made by exhibitor's great-great-grandfather, upon his arrival from Germany, one hundred and fifty years ago.
- Jacobs, Mamie K.**, Norristown. Walnut Wood Chest, 135 years old. Belonged to Godfrey Young, Sr., who died in 1822; is now in the possession of his great-great-grandchild.
- Jarrett, Mrs. Annie**, Ambler. Table, 200 years old. Antique Chair, 150 years old. Andirons, 68 years old.
- Johnson, Benjamin**, Norristown. Chair, made in Europe; very old.
- Jones, Mrs. Ann C.**, Spring Mill. Small Table.
- Jones, Mrs. Evan D.**, Conshohocken. Old Chair, formerly in the Bittenhouse family.
- Jones, John**, Conshohocken. Trunk, brought from England about the time William Penn first came over; owned by the late Joseph Lukens.
- Jones, John C.**, Lower Merion. Three Chairs, brought from Wales in 1743.
- Jones, Mrs. Rachel**, Broad Axe. Chair, 125 years old.
- Keeler, Miss Edith**, Norristown. Chair, 150 years old.
- Keller, Mrs. Henry**, North Wales. Stand, 65 years ago.
- Kenery, C. M.**, Abrams. Table, owned in the George family for two hundred years.
- Kenderdine, Mrs. Lavina**, North Wales. Andirons 1780.
- Kepler, Mrs. John**, Trappe. Mirror, 111 years old.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Nine different kinds of andirons. Small Chair and Large Chair, old. Invalid's Chair, 147 years old. Old safe, from the sea. Small trunk.
- Kibblehouse, Mrs. Kate**, Blue Bell. Round table, once owned by Catherine Berkheimer. Chair.
- Kohl, George M.**, Jenkintown. Table-top, 130 years old. Owned by four generations, back to Mrs. Pickering. Small bureau, made by Nicholas Kohl about 1820.
- Kooker, Miss Bertha C.**, Trappe. Carved walnut chair, 104 year. old.
- Krewson, Mrs. John**, Philadelphia. Wooden toy cradle, bought in 1829.
- Kriebble, Abraham K.**, Kulpsville. Child's Chair, used three generations.
- Kriebble, Anne**, Worcester. Clock, the first owner, George Kriebble, had it made to order, and imported it about the year 1740. It bears the inscription, "Jacob Molliner, Neustadt."
- Krupp, Henry H.**, Kulpsville. Table, belonged to the Heckler family.
- Kulp, Elias K.**, Lederachville. Chair, made and upholstered by Jacob Weaver, of Upper Salford.
- Loch, John W.**, Norristown. Andirons; supposed age, 50 years.
- Logan, Jane**, Jenkintown. Toy Cradle, dated 1698.
- Lukens, Mrs. Henry M.**, North Wales. Looking-glass, brought from England, in 1730.
- Lukens Mrs. Jawood**, Conshohocken. Old Mirror, beveled glass, formerly owned by Joseph Corson, grandfather of the exhibitor. Writing Desk, over 125 years old. Antique Work Stand, formerly owned by Mrs. Hanna J. Fouke. Old Card Table, mahogany, with brass feet. Two Franklin Chairs of the Revolutionary period. Brass Andirons.
- Lynch, B. I.**, Norristown. Cradle, rocked four generations.
- McNeill Mrs. George G.**, Blue Bell. Table, 200 years old; from Holland.
- Maden, Mrs.**, Swedeland. Chair.
- Mancill, Frank S.**, Port Kennedy. Brass Andirons, old.
- Mancill, Joshph**, Port Kennedy. Four Chairs, 100 years old.
- Mather, Mrs. Annie M.**, Jenkintown. Small Andirons, nearly 100 years old.
- Meehan, Mrs. John**, Blue Bell. Walnut Table, over 100 years old.
- Michael, Frederick**, Norriton. French Clock. Clock, 100 years old.
- Miles, Mrs. Isabella**, Gulf Mills. Bedstead.
- Morgan, Mrs. David**, Merion Station. Mahogany Card Table. Belonged to John Levering, one of Washington's Aid-de-Camps in the Revolutionary war.
- Naille, Miss Annie M.**, Royersford. Large Centre Table, 110 years old.
- Nightlinger, Mrs. George**, Shoemakerstown. Candelabra.
- Owen, Mrs. William W.**, Norristown. Chair, in Norris family over one hundred years.
- Pannepacker, Mrs. William C.**, Klein's Chair. Belonged to David Grubb, 1736 to 1816; to his daughter, Susan Kline, 1816 to 1871; to William C. Pannepacker since 1871.
- Pechin, John W.**, Klug-of-Prussia. Looking-Glass, 120 years old; brought from France. Chair, 100 years old.
- Pechin, Mrs. William**, Norristown. Chair, brought over with William Penn.
- Pechin, William R.**, Norristown. Plush Seat Chair. Came from France; in the Pechin family one hundred and twenty five years.
- Pomeroy, Mrs. H. S.**, Norristown. Small Dressing Case and Stool, 75 years old.

Pugh, Mrs. A., King-of-Prussia. Chair.

Rambo, Miss Sallie A., Swedeland. Rocking Chair 125 years old; formerly owned by exhibitors grandmother, Rosanna Huzzard.

Ramsey, Ellen D., Abrams. Trunk, presented to Sarah McVeigh (who was born January 2, 1763) by her aunt, Ruth Scotten, in 1771.

Ramsey, Miss Sallie W., Swedeland. Arm Chair. Owned, before the Revolution, by Jonathan Brooke, and handed down to his son, James Brooke.

Rawlins, Mrs. M., Lower Merion. Small Chair, once the property of Jacob Christler, one of Washington's body-guards.

Reid, Mrs. Dr. John K., Conshohocken. Cradle, 100 years old.

Richards Peter., Lansdale. Chair, 100 years old.

Rittenhouse, William., Jeffersonville. Dining Table, over 100 years old.

Roberts, Septimus., Whitpain. Wooden Chair, dated 1700. The property of the late Peter Lukens. Arm Chair, 120 years old. Stool, about 60 years old; one of the seats of Westtown school. Pair of Andirons.

Rodenbough, Mrs. T. F., Norristown. Old-fashioned walnut Chair, carved back.

Rogers, Mrs., Norristown. Andirons.

Rue, Louisa., Norristown. Card Table, property of Robert Kennedy in the revolution.

Schaefer, Miss., Norristown. Andirons.

Schultz, Solomon., Fairview Village. Table. Used, tradition says, by Washington.

Scott, Thomas P., North Wales. Chair, descended to exhibitor from Peter Lukens his great-great-grandfather; supposed to be over 200 years old.

Shay, Elizabeth Y., Three Tuns. Candle Table, over 100 years old.

Shoemaker, Hannah Y., Norristown. Chair, made in 1575. brought from Germany by the Shoemaker family when they first settled here.

Slemmer, Mrs. M. H., Norristown. Small Work Chest, 150 years old.

Slemmer, Mrs. William., Norristown. Money Trunk, over 100 years old.

Slifer, Dr. H. F., North Wales. Chair, over 100 years old.

Sperry Mrs. Ella., North Wales. Chair, 150 years old.

Springer, Daniel., Royersford. Piano. Belonged to Wright A. Brighthurst.

Stackhouse Mrs. Joseph., Jarretstown. Stand, made of Job's tears in 1853, by Mr. Edmunds, of Philadelphia.

Stannard, Mrs. E. J., Broad Axe. Brass Andirons, over 120 years old. They were a bridal gift to the exhibitors great-grandmother Mary Satterthwait, and have been handed down as bridal gifts to each generation since.

Stauffer, John M., Norristown. Chair, 100 year old.

Stenger, Hugh., Hickorytown. Chair 1790.

Stewart, George., Jeffersonville. Chair, over 100 years old; not a nail in it.

Streeper, Mrs. Samuel., Broad Axe. Brass Andirons. Chest, dated 1767.

Supplee, Hiram., Conshohocken. Piano, very old.

Supplee, Joseph., Belfry. Chest of Drawers, dated 1770; inlaid.

Swift, Samuel., Norristown. Arm Chair, 125 years old.

Taylor, Mrs. Robert A., Jarretstown. Rush-bottomed Chair, made in 1805.

Tomlinson, Amos Buckman., Shoemakertown. Chair about 100 years old.

Tyson, Charles., Trappe. Chair.

Wager, Mrs. Henry., Norristown. Mirror, over 100 years old.

Walton, Mrs. Amos., Blue Bell. Round Table over 100 years old.

Walton, Mrs. Harry C., Blue Bell. Round Table.

Wanner, Elizabeth., Norristown. Chair, brought from England over 100 years ago.

Warner, William B., Norristown. Arm Rocking Chair, more than 100 years old.

Wentz, Thomas., Fort Washington. Two Chairs. In Chew house, at Germantown, during the Revolution; now property of the exhibitor.

Williams, Mrs. Maria., Phoenixville. Chair.

Williams, Mrs., Fitzwatertown. Chair, Clock.

Wood Mrs. Jesse., Swedeland. Work Box.

Worrall, Mrs. Winfield., Blue Bell. Arm Chair, over 100 years old. Owned first by John Morgan.

Wright, Mrs. Comly., Norristown. Foot Rest, supposed to be 150 years old.

Yerkes, Hannah., Plymouth Meeting. Chair, made in 1575. Brought from Germany by the Shoemaker family, when they first settled here.

Yothers, David., Prospectville. Old Chair.

Zimmerman, Mrs. Elizabeth., Providence Square. Arm Chair, 150 years old.

Zimmerman, Esther., Norristown. Looking-Glass, 120 years old. Table, of Cherry, made nearly one hundred years ago, on his own place, by David Norman. The place is now owned by William Smith, on Swede Street, Norristown. Miniature straw-covered Trunk, dated 1726.

Zimmerman, Mrs. Lorenzo., Norristown. Straight-back Chair, 1750.

CLASS XII.

HOME MANUFACTURED ARTICLES OF DOMESTIC USE, OLD.

Allebach, Mrs. James H., North Wales. Quilt, between 65 and 70 years old.

Ambler, Aaron., Norritonville. Table Cloth and Towel.

Anders, Mrs. George S., Kulpville. Fancy Table Cloth, 1829.

Ander, William H., Kulpville. Fancy Towel.

Ashenfelter, Mrs. A. J., Yerkes. Quilt and Coverlet.

Barnes, Mrs. Edmund., Broad Axe. Sheet, home made linen.

Bartman, Mrs. Mary R., Trappe. Home-made Sheet, 100 years old.

Beard, John., Norristown. Three Bed Spreads. One white, 1881; two white and blue, 1807 and 1816.

Beck, Mrs. John P., Centre Square. Bed Spread, made by the Moravian Sisters at Bethlehem.

Berger, J. F., North Wales. Linen Table Cloth, 100 years old; spun by Elizabeth Ackerman.

Bertolet, Mrs. A. F., Trappe. Two Patchwork Quilts, 113 years old.

Blair, David T., Hatboro. Table Cloth. Brought from Holland, by Adrian Cornell, one hundred and forty years ago. Double Coverlet, made in 1760. Two Pillow Cases, from Holland, 140 years old.

Brunst, Mrs. Ida M., Yerkes. Bed Quilt.

Buckman, Mrs. Thomas., Jenkintown. Linen Sheet, home-made.

Cassel, Isaac R., North Wales. Towel, made by Elizabeth Reiff, grandmother of exhibitor.

Conard, Ella V., Port Kennedy. Woolen Bed Spread, made by Eliza Cowgill, fifty years ago.

Cope, O. W., Hatboro. Bed Spread, of 1776, with representation of Liberty at the altar presenting her illustrious sons with medallions. Belongs to William Wade, Horsham.

Corson, Miss Annie H., Conshohocken. Homespun Towel, of 1767; spun by the great-grandmother of the exhibitor.

Corson, Mrs. Dr. Hiram., Conshohocken. Old linen Comfortable.

Cottman, Mrs. Charles., Abington. Two Sheets and two Towels, made from flax grown near Hatboro ninety years ago.

Cottman, Mrs. J. F., Jenkintown. Table Linen and Napkins. Outset of Mary Stoneback, 1798; adornments by exhibitor, who is a granddaughter.

Craft, Mrs. Jacob., Norristown. Pair of Towels, homespun, over 130 years old.

Crawford, Mrs. William H., Lower Merion. Coverlet, 50 years old.

Cresson, Miss Anne H., Conshohocken. Homespun Towel, spun by the exhibitor's great-grandmother, Mary Pennell, of Concord, Delaware County, before her marriage, in 1767, with Frederick Fair-lamb, of Middletown, Delaware County.

Custer, Philip B., Norritonville. Quilt, 75 years old, made by Mrs. Catherine Custer.

Danenhower, Mrs. Roland., Blue Bell. Linen Towel, over 100 years old. Bed Spread, 150 years old.

Davidheiser, Mrs. Sallie., Douglass. Home-made Towel, made in 1831.

Dettra, Mrs. John., Norristown. Four Towels, spun and worked by Mary Zieber, on the three holidays of the year, second Christmas, second Easter, and second Whitsuntide; over 100 years old.

Drake, Mrs. Aram., Kulpville. Bed Spread, blue and white home-made linen; over 100 years old.

Eastburn, Annie., Bridgeport. Linen Sheet, 100 years old.

Fisher, Mrs. John., Worcester. Homespun Stand Cloth.

- Fitzwater, Mrs. Joseph**, Port Providence. Home-made spun linen Wallet, used by farmers to carry produce to market on horse-back; 75 years old.
- Fox, Mrs. Harry**, Norristown. Red Quilt, old.
- Freas, Mrs. David W.**, Norristown. Towel, spun by hand; 150 years old.
- Fretz, Jonas**, North Wales. Linen Sheet, spun and marked by Ann Clemens, 1812. Towel, marked by Susanna Haldeman, 1801.
- Garsed, Mrs. Robert P.**, Norristown. Pair of Blankets, made fifty years ago. Counterpane, made in Montgomery County fifty years ago. Pair of Linen Sheets, made sixty years ago.
- Gerhart, Miss Christiana**, North Wales. Towel, made in 1818, by John Gerhard. Quilt, over 100 years old.
- Gerhart, Mrs. Eliza**, Douglass. Muslin Towel, made in 1842.
- Gross, Miss Elizabeth**, Collegeville. Pair of Pillow Slips, made of bed curtain of printed linen. Brought from Germany one hundred or one hundred and fifty years ago.
- Hallman, A. S.**, Norristown. Quilt.
- Hallman, Mrs. Henry**, Trappe. Quilt, 150 years old.
- Hange, Mrs. M.**, Worcester. Table Cloth, 200 years old. Two linen Towels, homespun, 100 years old.
- Harley, Mrs. Joseph**, Belfry. Table Linen, 120 to 125 years old.
- Harmer, Mrs. David**, Jenkintown. Homespun Towel.
- Heacock, Annie**, Jenkintown. Homespun linen Towels, about 80 years old. Homespun blue and white Bed Spread, 70 years old.
- Heebner, Mrs. Emanuel**, Worcester. Two needle-worked Towels. Quilt.
- Heebner, William L.**, West Point. Table Cloth, 1758. Towel, 1810.
- Heimbach, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Frederick. Towel, 110 years old.
- Holland, Mrs. Eliza**, Jarretstown. Coverlet, very old.
- Howland, Mrs. Susan**, North Wales. Linen Sheet, 1777, and linen Towel, 1775; exhibitor's grandmother's.
- Hunsicker, Miss Mary A.**, Kulpville. Blanket, 100 years old.
- Iredell, Phoebe**, Norristown. Table Cloth, 100 years old.
- Jacobs, Mrs. O.**, Norristown. Towel, 70 years old.
- Jarrett, Rebecca and Elizabeth**, Horsham. Two Towels. Belonged to Hannah Mather, grandmother of the exhibitor.
- Jones, Mrs. Evans D.**, Conshohocken. Blanket and Coverlet, spun by exhibitor.
- Keller, Mrs. Henry**, North Wales. Bed Spread, 75 years old, spun and woven by exhibitor's grandmother.
- Kibblehouse, Mrs. Kate**, Blue Bell. Homespun linen Sheets, made by Catherine Berkheimer one hundred years ago.
- Kirk, Edwin**, Neshaminy. Table Cloth, 150 years old; came from Germany in 1808.
- Kneedler, Mrs. Jacob H.**, North Wales. Bed Spread, made in 1801; spun and woven by exhibitor's great-grandmother.
- Koons, Mrs. Ann**, Collegeville. Coverlet, 100 years old.
- Kratz, Ida**, Worcester. Home-made Towel.
- Krewson, Mrs. John**, Philadelphia. Bed Spread, spun by Nancy Boileau, Moreland, 1780. Huckaback Towel and Table Cover, spun by Mary Leech, Hatboro, 1770.
- Kriebble, Abraham H.**, Kulpville. Cup Towels, 150 years old. Fancy Towels, over 100 years old.
- Kriebble, Abraham K.**, Kulpville. Pillow Cases.
- Kriebble, Mrs. Isaac**, Mainland. Home-made Table Cloth, fine linen, 110 years old. Bed Spread, 100 years old.
- Land, David C.**, Gwynedd. Thread, spun by Mary Bean, wife of Jacob Cassel, late of Montgomery township.
- Landes, Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. Figured Table Cloth, spun and woven one hundred years ago. Figured Towels, 100 years old.
- Lefevre, Mrs. Esther**, Douglass. Home-made Towel, 80 years old.
- Leister, Mrs. David**, Douglass. Towel, over 100 years old.
- Lukens, Mrs. Javood**, Conshohocken. Old linen Table Cloth, formerly used by Mrs. Hannah J. Foulke.
- McCrea, Mrs. Harrison**, Norristown. Table Cloths, woven in Denmark one hundred and fifty years ago.
- Mann, John H.**, Horsham. White muslin Counterpane, finished about 1830; elaborate needle-work in bas-relief. It was nine months in the frame, and then filled with a bodkin, on the lap, by Miss Hannah Huston, of Chestnut Hill, later Mrs. Isaac Mann, Sr., of Horsham, mother of the exhibitor. Homespun linen Table Cloth, 75 years old. Pair of Sheets, 75 years old; spun by Hannah Keith Mann. Pair of homespun Towels.
- Markley Freundschaft, The**. Samples of Flax and of Braid, woven in 1804 by the mother of Augustus G. Markley. Table Linen, 130 years old. Flax spun and woven by Sarah Markley; remarkably well done, and in excellent preservation.
- Mather, Mrs. Lydia**, Jenkintown. Homespun linen Table Cloth, 153 years old.
- Matthias, Mrs.**, Norristown. Two hand-made Towels, 1816.
- Miller, Mrs. John**, Jeffersonville. Linen Towel, woven by Mrs. Peter Richards sixty-five years ago. Home-made Soap, made by Mrs. Peter Richards in 1824.
- Morey, Miss Amanda**, Douglass. Home-made Towel, 200 years old. Home-made Sheet, 100 years old.
- Moyer, Daniel**, Frederick. Pillow Case, home-made, 110 years old. Bed Valance, 110 years old.
- Naille, Miss Annie M.**, Royersford. Flax, 63 years old.
- Nice, Mrs. George**, Worcester. Counterpane.
- Ortlip, Emily**, Abrams. Linen Thread, made by Hannah Shainline fifty years ago.
- Orrt, Josephine**, East Greenville. Home-made Towel, worked by Esther Orrt in 1831.
- Owen, Mrs. William W.**, Norristown. Pair of Blankets, made in Montgomery County fifty years ago.
- Pannepacker, Mrs. William C.**, Klein's. Towel, made by Sophia Walt in 1831. Towel, made by Mrs. David Grubb in 1803.
- Pawling, The Misses**, King-of-Prussia. Comfortable.
- Prizer, Ellwood**, Abrams. Quilt, nearly 100 years old.
- Quillman, Mrs. Philip**, Norristown. Two Towels, homespun and drawn work, 60 years old.
- Renninger, Mrs. Eliza**, Douglass. Home-made Towel, 150 years old.
- Rex, Mrs. Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. Linen Sheet, spun by Mary Slingluff and woven by John Slingluff, who were the parents of the late William H. Slingluff, of Norristown; supposed to be about 100 years old. Linen Sheet, formerly owned by Catharine Berkheimer (afterwards Fetzer); more than 100 years old. Table Cloth, more than 100 years old. Linen Wallet, used for carrying articles on horse-back; more than 100 years old. Ancient Table Cloth, homespun; formerly owned by Maria Moore, of Gwynedd.
- Richards, Miss Malvina**, Jeffersonville. Home-made Soap, 60 years old, made by exhibitor. Linen Towel, made by exhibitor's grandmother before her marriage.
- Shay, Mrs. Edward**, Three Tuns. Coverlet, 100 years old.
- Shay, Elizabeth Y.**, Three Tuns. Hand-spun Table cloth, over 150 years old.
- Shoemaker, Hannah Y.**, Norristown. Bed Spread, 150 years old.
- Shoemaker, Mrs. Thomas S.**, Jarretstown. Pair of linen Pillow Cases, spun and made by the exhibitor's great-aunt about the beginning of the century.
- Shreiner, Sarah P.**, Gwynedd. Pillow Slips, 100 years old.
- Slemmer, Mrs. M. H.**, Norristown. Hand-worked Quilt, 80 years old.
- Slingluff, Mrs. William H.**, Norristown. Yarns, of the olden time.
- Smith, Mrs. Hattie**, Douglass. Home-made Towel, 125 years old.
- Smith, John A.**, Norristown. Two Towels, over 125 years old.
- Snyder, Mrs. George**, Broad Axe. Pair of linen Pillow Cases, over 100 years old.
- Spencer, Miss Lillian**, Jenkintown. Crocheted Bed Spread, made by exhibitor's grandmother when 86 years of age.
- Stillwell, Mrs. Clara**, North Wales. Bed Spread, 70 years old.
- Streep, Mrs. Samuel**, Broad Axe. Linen Towel and Apron, over 100 years old. The flax they were made from was grown on the farm of the late William Lentz, of Spring Mill.
- Sweed, Mrs.**, Norristown. Hand-made Counterpane.
- Taggart, Miss Hanna**, Fort Washington. Pair of Pillow Cases and Table Cloth, home-made linen.
- Thompson, Mary E.**, Shoemakertown. Linen Sheets and Pillow Cases, 1782.
- Tomlinson, Amos Buckman**, Shoemakertown. Pillow Cases, 1821.
- Trumbauer, J. B.**, Jenkintown. Homespun Towel, made about 1800.
- Unruh Misses R. and K.**, Weldon. Table Cloth.
- Walker, Mrs. Helen**, Norristown. White Counterpane, 112 years old.
- Walker, Sarah S.**, Abrams. Two Linen Table Cloths, 80 and 100 years old.
- Walt, F. K.**, East Greenville. Towel, made by Elizabeth Keely one hundred and forty years ago.

- Walton, Eber**, Blue Bell. Pair of Blankets, over 100 years old.
- Wagner, Mrs. Peter**, Trooper. Linen Towel woven in 1819 by Betsy Markley.
- Weber, Mrs. Reuben**, Plymouth. Bed Curtains, over 120 years old, under the folds of which General Harmer, of Revolutionary fame, was born.
- Weinberger, Mrs. E. K.**, Collegeville. Home-made Linen Sheets, Pillow Slips, Towels, Bed Cases and Spreads, from 1790 to 1827. The oldest linen came from the exhibitor's grandmother, Margaret Gorges, the wife of William Fretz, of Bedminster, Bucks county, through her only daughter Elizabeth, wife of Jacob S. Kratz. The Gorges family resided just below Doylestown, and had come from Salford township. Samples of home-made Flannel, Lindsey-Woolsey, and Flaxen Goods. Samples of home-made linen Thread, Stocking Yarn, Ladies' Stockings, Gents' Socks, woolen Stocking Yarn and Stockings. Quilt, made of bed curtain style called Washington's Oak, 1800.
- Whetstone, Mrs. Abby**, North Wales. Quilt, over 100 years old
- Wilson, Mrs. A. H.**, Conshohocken. Bread Bag.
- Wilson, Mrs. F. W.**, Norristown. Linen Table Cloth 85 years old. Linen Bed Tick, 51 years old.
- Wilson Family**, The Jenkintown. Woolen and linen Bed Spread, spun by their mother about 1800. Table Cloth, spun by C. Lukens.
- Wolf, Mrs. Anstina**, Plymouth. Linen Table Cloth. Flax grown and spun in 1810, near Spring Mill, by Margaret Dewees, afterwards Streeper, the mother of the exhibitor. Home-made Linen, made in 1812.
- Yeakle, Mrs. Charles**, Flourtown. Woolen Quilt, made by exhibitor's mother in 1799.
- Yeakle, Mrs. Isaac**, Norristown. Pair of Pillow Cases, 100 years old.
- Yerk, Mrs.**, Trappe. Linen Towel, 150 years old.
- Young, Miss Margaret**, Trappe. Bed Curtain, owned by Mrs. Moser one hundred and thirty years ago.
- Zimmerman, Esther**, Norristown. Two Tray Covers, with bunch of Linen Thread 120 years old. Pillow Case, Spun from the flax by Sarah Pickering one hundred and twenty years ago.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. G. W.**, Collegeville. Album Quilt and Coverlet.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. J. M.**, Yerkess. Coverlet.

CLASS XIII.

SILVER, SILVER-PLATED, CUT GLASS AND CHINA WARE, AND ORNAMENTS.

- Arron, Mrs. Phoebe P.**, Norristown. Samples of old China, Bowl, Salt Cellar and Coffee Pot. Brought from China by Nathan Dunn whilst owner of the Chinese Museum in Philadelphia. Two large china Bowls, 140 and 150 years old.
- Acker, Mrs. Dr. E. L.**, Norristown. Sugar Bowl, 100 years old.
- Allebach, Mary**, North Wales. Cream Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Ambler, Aaron**, Norritonville. Two old Plates. Two pairs silver Sugar Tongs, Decanter, Wine Glasses and Goblet. Tea Pot. Tarkard, 110 years old.
- Anders, Andrew**, Kulpville. Fancy Tumblers, over 100 years old. China Cups and Saucers, Dishes, Mug, and Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Anders, George H.**, Norritonville. Silver Spoon, made in Philadelphia over one hundred years ago.
- Anders, Mrs. George S.**, Kulpville. Cream Mug and Glass Mug, four generations old.
- Anders, Mrs. Hiram**, Norritonville. Old Pitcher.
- Anders, Mrs. Joseph, Jr.**, Worcester. Glass Cup and Saucer.
- Anderson, Joseph**, Abrams. Half dozen silver Spoons, 100 years old.
- Appel, Abraham**, Kulpville. Tea Pot and Cream Mug, 120 years old. Blue Plate, with names of the States and portrait of Washington.
- Armitage, Jacob**, Jenkintown. Pitcher, of ye olden time, bearing the United States arms.
- Ashenfelter, Mrs. A. J.**, Yerkess. Cup and Saucer and two blue Plates.
- Ashenfelter, Jonas**, Jeffersonville. China Tea Set, purchased by the exhibitor when he was married, in 1834. Cream Mug, in the family fifty years. Sugar Bowl and Cream Mug, over 200 years old. Belonged to exhibitor's great-grandfather.
- Atkinson, Robert**, Bryn Mawr. China Plate, over 100 years old.
- Bartman, Mrs., Mary R.**, Trappe. Long Plate, 80 years old.
- Batchelder, Meredith**, Norristown. Old Boxes.
- Bean, Mrs. Margaret**, Norristown. Tea Pot, 90 years old. Sugar Bowl, 75 years old.
- Bechtel, Mrs. Isaac**, Schwenksville. Bohemian glass Sugar Bowl, originally the property of the Groff family, and over 200 years old.
- Bechtel, Mrs. William**, Schwenksville. Tea Pot 100 years old.
- Bechtel, Mrs. W. H.**, Schwenksville. Antiquated Tea Pot and Glass Tumbler, from the Price family 150 years old.
- Beck, Mrs. John P.**, Centre Square. Ancient Dishes. St. John's Communion Service, used at St. John's Lutheran Church, Whitpain.
- Bertolet, Mrs. A. F.**, Trappe. Bowl and china Plate, 113 years old.
- Besson, Jacob**, Plymouth Meeting. Tea Pot, 150 years old.
- Bevan, Mrs. Emily**, Hartranft. Fruit Dish, over 200 years old.
- Beyer, Benjamin**, Norritonville. Old Coffee Pot.
- Bickel, Mrs.**, Norristown. Pair of china Tea Pots, over 100 years old.
- Bickel, Mrs. John W.**, Norristown. Two Plates. Have been in the Bickel family over one hundred and twenty-five years.
- Biedler, Mrs. Harry**, North Wales. Pitcher, over 100 years old. Spoon Holder, 150 years old.
- Bisson, Jane**, Three Tuns. Two Tea Pots, Sugar Bowl, and Cream Pitcher, 75 years old.
- Blackburn, Mrs. William**, Centre Square. Old Dishes.
- Blackfan, Miss**, Norristown. Pickle Dish and china Bowl, over 100 years old.
- Blair, David T.**, Hatboro. China Cup and Saucer, 116 years old. Belonged to Peter N. Hageman.
- Blyler, Mrs.**, North Wales. Salt Cellar, 125 years old. Tea Pot, 70 years old.
- Bolton, Miss Rebecca**, Norristown. Bowl, over 100 years old.
- Boorse, Mrs. Joseph**, Kulpville. Blue Saucer, over 125 years old. Tea Pot, over 100 years old.
- Bosler, Mrs. Joseph**, Shoemakertown. Cream Pitcher.
- Bowman, William T.**, Worcester. Half dozen Cups and Saucers. Five Cups and Saucers, common ware.
- Boyer, Miss Clara**, Norristown. Plate, 138 years old. Pitcher, 155 years old.
- Bradfield, Mrs.**, Plymouth Meeting. Cream Pitcher, 125 years old. China Plate, 100 years old. China Bowl, 150 years old.
- Bradford, Mrs. William R.**, Norristown. Tea Pot, 105 years old. China Tea Pot and china Sugar Bowl, 95 years old.
- Branin, Ann**, Jenkintown. Dolly Loller's Breakfast Plate, 75 years old. Six silver Tea Spoons.
- Broades, Mrs. Ross**, West Conshohocken. China Cup and Saucer, 100 years old.
- Brooke, Mrs.**, King-of-Prussia. China Cream Pitcher and Pickle Dish.
- Brown, Christopher**, Port Kennedy. China Cup and Saucer, 100 years old.
- Brunner, Mrs. Benjamin**, Worcester. Two Plates one Bowl.
- Brunner, John**, Worcester. China Cup and Saucer.
- Brunner, Miss Mary**, Worcester. Spoon.
- Buchert, Mrs. John**, Schwenksville. Glass Plate, said to be 100 years old; came through the Keeler family.
- Buckman, Mrs. Thomas**, Jenkintown. Two Tea Spoons.
- Bult, George T.**, Whitpain. Pocket Inkstand and Case, and portable Steel Pen.
- Butler, Mrs.**, Plymouth Meeting. Cream Pitcher, 150 years old.
- Caldwell, Mrs.**, Bridgeport. Large Dinner Plate, Cream Jug, small Plate, and Salt Dish. These articles were brought from Scotland, eighty years ago, by Mrs. Mason.
- Cassel, Abraham H.**, Harleysville. Curious old Sugar Bowl. Old Plate, from the Jenkins family. Old Cup and Saucer, from the Jenkins family. Very fine antique Sugar Bowl, supposed to be of black slate; a relic of the family of the elder Christopher Saur, who emigrated to America in 1724 by way of Bristol, England. Family tradition says he brought this Bowl, besides a number of other articles, along from Bristol. Two curiously shaped Preserve Dishes from the Saur family. Small silver Tea Spoons, from the Lukens-Jenkins family; very old.
- Cassel, Mrs. Abraham H.**, Kulpville. Plate, over 100 years old. Wine Glass, partly wood, from Christopher Master; 110 years old.
- Cassel, Mrs. Hannah**, Skippack. Britannia Sugar Bowl, part of the outfit of present owner's grandmother, the mother of ex-County Treasurer George C. Reiff.
- Cassel, Isaac R.**, North Wales. Shaving Glass. Cup and Saucer, used by exhibitor when young. Perfumery Bottle, brought by exhibitor's grandfather Cresson from Jerusalem. Perfumery Bottle. Belonged to great-great-grandmother Cresson.

- Cassel, Mrs. James**, Belfry. Glass Cigar Holder, blown in Holland ; 160 years old. Two Blue Saucers, 100 years old. Large Blue Bowl, 160 years old. Blue Glass Salt Collar and Cream Jug, 150 years old.
- Cassel, Mrs. S. U.**, Skippack. Soup Bowl, over 100 years old. Came from Germany.
- Childs, S. Powell**, Plymouth. China Tea Pots, Sugar Bowl, Cream Jug, Cake Plate, and Sugar Tongs, owned by the late Samuel Powell, and in the Powell family for a century. Ancient Gravy Bowl, 100 years old.
- Clements, Adelaide**, Lower Merion. China Cup, Saucer, and Plate, hand painted.
- Coates, Mrs. David**, Norristown. Cream Pitcher, 100 years old, and very handsome in its time.
- Colton, Mrs. Ann C.**, Jenkintown. Glass Fruit Bowl, bought in 1750. Two Silver Table Spoons, bought about 1762.
- Conard, Ella V.**, Port Kennedy. Three silver Tea Spoons, about 100 years old. Cup and Saucer, 75 years old.
- Conrow, Mrs. George E. B.**, Norristown. Modern Cream Jug, 1884.
- Cook, Mrs. Trappe**. China Tea Pot and Sugar Bowl.
- Corson, Mrs. George N.**, Norristown. Pieces of China, nearly 200 years old.
- Corson, Mrs. Dr. Hiram**, Conshohocken. Silver Table Spoons, in almost daily use since the Revolution. Old Silver Fruit Basket. Old silver Sugar Bowl, Cream Jug, Coffee Pot, and Coffee Urn, Pitcher, presented to Sarah Rutter by Thomas Adams, of Massachusetts, son of John Adams, President.
- Cottman, Mrs. Charles**, Abington. Cup and Saucer, purchased by Charity Von Deron in the year 1761. Six silver Tea Spoons, dated 1809.
- Cottman, Mrs. J. F.**, Jenkintown. China Tea Cup, outset of Mrs. Jacob E. Buck in 1824. China Tea Cup, outset of Mrs. William Cottman in 1832. Tea Cup, Saucer, Sauce Dish, and Sugar Bowl.
- Crawford, Mrs. V. Virginia**, Bryn Mawr. China Plate, 200 years old.
- Crawford, Mrs. William H.**, Lower Merion. Four silver Table Spoons, 125 years old. China Saucer, 100 years old.
- Creighton, Mrs. Mary A.**, Norristown. Half dozen silver Spoons, 125 years old.
- Cresson, Mrs. Annie H.**, Conshohocken. Silver Needle Case, of the seventeenth century.
- Cresson, Mrs. Sarah**, Conshohocken. Modern Finger Bowl Dishes.
- Cummins, Ella**, Port Kennedy. Toy Wash Bowl and Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Curwen, George F.**, Villa Nova. Punch Ladle. Charles II., 1663.
- Custer, Mrs. David**, Fairview Village. China Cup and Saucer.
- Custer, Mrs. Lydia**, North Wales. Half dozen Tea Spoons, quite old.
- Custer, Philip B.**, Norritonville. Sugar Bowl, 80 years old.
- Cutler, C. D.**, Three Tuns. Unique Inkstand, 100 years old.
- Danenhower, Mrs. Roland**, Blue Bell. China Cups and Saucers, very old.
- Dannehower, Mrs. William**, Blue Bell. Pin, over a 100 years old.
- Davis, Mrs. P. J.**, Ironbridge. Tea Cup and Saucer, over 100 years old.
- Day, Mrs. Richard H.**, Philadelphia. Silver-plated Candlesticks.
- Deal, Mrs. Catharine**, Bryn Mawr. Coffee Pot.
- Deal, Mrs. Hannah**, Bryn Mawr. Cream Pitcher, 150 years old China Cup and Saucer, formerly used in the family of Charles Thompson, President of the first Continental Congress.
- Dettra, Mrs. John**, Norristown. China Plate, over 100 years old.
- Detwiler, Jones**, Blue Bell. Tea Pot, property of Henry Slater ; a family relic of many years.
- Detwiler, Mrs. Sarah**, Fairview Village. Sugar Bowl and two Tea Pots, 90 years old.
- Devees, Mrs. Louisa B.**, Norristown. Large Meat Dish, antique.
- Dorworth, Joseph H.**, Norritonville. Wine Glass, very old. Sugar Bowl, 97 years old. Two Bowls, 70 and 102 years old. German Tea Canister, brought to this country in 1782.
- Drehs, Miss Mariiah**, Douglass. Fancy Drinking Cup, 80 years old.
- Eastburn, Annie**, Bridgeport. Antique China, 100 years old.
- Eberle, The Misses**, Oak Lane. Old-fashioned Salt Cellar.
- Eckard, Jane E.**, Abington. Two antique Ivory Tablets, with tortoise shell cover. Mother-of-pearl Tatting Shuttle, antique.
- Edelman, Mrs. Mary**, Collegeville. Two Plates ; in the family of exhibitor since 1800.
- Edwards, Jacob**, Norristown. China Tea Pot, over 100 years old.
- Egolf, Gus**, Norristown. Dishes, 100 years old.
- Eisenhart, Miss Clara**, Kulpsville. Gilt Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Elkinton, Paul P.**, Blue Bell. Brass Flemish Coat-of-arms, and Hook.
- Elliott, Miss S. E.**, Jenkintown. Tea Pot and Pitcher.
- Evans, Gertrude**, Hatboro. Marble Punch Bowl, made in 1603.
- Evans, Mrs. Priscilla**, North Wales. China Image of a Lass, 110 years old.
- Famous, Andrew S.**, Norritonville. Decanter and Cream Jug.
- Faust, Mrs. H. H.**, Frederick. China Cup and Saucer, 75 years old. China Plate. Small Bronze Cream Pitcher, with illustrations of General Lafayette receiving a sword, and a portrait of that distinguished Frenchman. Blue China Tea Pot.
- Felton, Mrs. Joseph**, Jenkintown. Cream Pitcher and China Bowl, used since 1790.
- Felty, Mrs.**, North Wales. Tea Pot. Belonging to exhibitor's great-grandmother.
- Fisher, Jacob**, Worcester. Tea Cup.
- Fisher, Mrs. John**, Worcester. Wine Pitcher and Tea Pot, from Germany.
- Fisher, Susan**, Worcester. Wine Glass.
- Fleck, Mrs.**, Norristown. Cream Cup, 100 years old.
- Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox**, Norristown. Three Tea Cups and two Saucers, about 80 years old. Tureen, oval Plate, and Cream Jug, about 80 years old.
- Fornance Joseph**, Norristown. Punch Bowl, about 100 years old ; was broken and fastened with rivets.
- Fox, Mrs. Maggie**, Fairview Village. Large Plate, dated 1790.
- Fraleigh, Miss Julia Ann**, Weldon. Pitcher of the War of 1812, with man-of-war and Masonic emblems ; was the property of Captain Flinn.
- Freas, Mrs. David W.**, Norristown. A Jar, from Germany in 1756. Filled with fruit.
- Freedley, Sophia**, Norristown. Five china Plates, modern.
- Freedley, Mrs. Dr.**, Conshohocken. Three-cornered Dish, very old.
- Fry, Mrs. Peter**, Worcester. Plate and Glass.
- Fryer, Mrs. Barney**, Skippack. Inkstand.
- Fryer, Henry S.**, Skippack. Half dozen silver Spoons, traced back 200 years.
- Fulmer, Mrs.**, Gulf Mills. China, antique.
- Garsed, Mrs. Robert P.**, Norristown. Antique Pitcher, decorated with figure of Washington. Antique Pitcher, decorated in four colors ; handle broken. In use more than one hundred years. Antique silver Basket, used more than one hundred years ago ; china Punch Bowl, china Cup and Saucer, and silver Spoon. All owned by Mrs. L. W. Read. Antique china Saucer, owned by Mrs. L. B. Dewees. Inlaid wooden Box.
- Geller, Mrs. J. S.**, Norristown. Cream Jug, 115 years old.
- Geyer, Mrs. Charles**, Worcester. Two Plates and one Sugar Bowl.
- Geyer, Miss Sarah**, Obelisk. China Plate, Cup, and Cream Jug, in possession of exhibitor's family one hundred and twenty-six years.
- Gilbert, Mrs. S.**, Norristown. Sugar Bowl, 110 years old.
- Gotwals, Abraham**, Belfry. Coffee Pot, three Plates, Cup, and Saucers.
- Graf, Mrs. Peter**, Kulpsville. Flowered Plate, 120 years old. Porcelain Tea Kettle, 105 years old.
- Griggs, Miss Clara**, Norristown. Silver Spoons, nearly 200 years old. Belonged to the first white child born in Montgomery county ; said child was born in a cave. Cream Mug, over 100 years old ; from Germany.
- Grimley, Miss Olivia K.**, Schwenksville. Six china Cups and six china Saucers, owned by Sarah Nunnemacher in 1800, and purchased by Solomon K. Grimley in 1877. Two china Plates, with landing of Lafayette in 1824. Owned by Jacob Cassel from 1824 to 1878 ; since 1878, by Solomon K. Grimley. Four Plates. Owned by Mary Keeley, 1818 to 1872 ; Solomon K. Grimley, 1872. Cream Jug. Owned by Hieronymus Hause, 1728 to 1790 ; Peter and Thomas Pool,

- from 1790 to 1882; since 1882, belongs to Solomon K. Grimley. Earthen Sugar Bowl. Owned by Andrew Young in 1725, and remained in the Young family until 1884, when, after the death of Sannah Young, Solomon K. Grimley purchased it. China Tea Pot. Belonged to Samuel and Mary Krupp, 1800. Six common A, B, C Plates. Belonged to Isaac Grimley in 1818; to Solomon K. Grimley since 1872.
- Guest, Miss Alice**, Norristown. Tea Pot and Cream Jug. Once the property of Hester Reed, and over 100 years old.
- Haas, Mrs., Dantel**, East Greenville. Mug. Was exhibitor's great-grandmother's, and is said to be 150 years old.
- Hall, Miss Sallie**, Norristown. China Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Hallman, Mrs. Lewis**, Hartranft. Meat Dish, 150 years old.
- Hallowell, Mrs. C. R.**, Norristown. China Cream Pitcher, over 100 years old. Silver Cream Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Hallowell, Mrs. C. R.**, Plymouth. Cup, Saucer, Plate, Vase, two Pickle Plates, and Card Stand.
- Hallowell, Elizabeth**, Jenkintown. China Tea Cup and Saucer, and Coffee Cup and Saucer; Were the property of Tabitha Kirk, deceased. Silver Sugar Tongs, made by Seneca Lukens; fac-simile of one owned by George Washington.
- Hallowell, Mrs. Isaac**, Spring House. Salt Cellar.
- Hallowell, Jennie E.**, Norristown. Finger Bowl, over 100 years old.
- Hamill, Miss Clara**, Norristown. Silver Sugar Bowl and Cream Jug, 1789.
- Hamilton, Mrs. R.**, Lower Merion. Cup and Saucer, over 80 years old.
- Hange, Mrs. M.**, Worcester. Glass Mug, 100 years old.
- Harley, Mrs. Joseph**, Belfry. China Pitcher, 120 years old.
- Harner, Mrs.**, Norristown. China Bread Tray, and other pieces.
- Harper, Martha L.**, Jenkintown. Silver Spoon, used by the first female white child born of English parents on the banks of the Delaware. By reason of this child, Mary Killcup, being the first female born on the Delaware, William Penn granted her land near Arch street.
- Harrison, James**, Spring House. Ivory Box.
- Harry, Miss Annie**, Conshohocken. China Cup and Saucer, Spoon, Silver Scissors. Hook.
- Harry, Miss Mary**, Norristown. Cup and Saucer, over 130 years old.
- Hart, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Blue Bell. Two old-fashioned Plates.
- Hart, Miss Kate**, Norristown. China Sugar Bowl, Plate, and small Punch Bowl, over 100 years old. China Cup and Saucer, 80 years old. Tumbler, 100 years old. Belonged to the great-grandfather of Zieber Hart.
- Heacock, Annie**, Jenkintown. Six silver Tea Spoons, 100 years old. Inkstand, made in 1818.
- Heebner, Mrs. C. B.**, Collegeville. China Ware, 100 years old.
- Heller, Miss Clara**, Norristown. Vase, hand painted; 100 years old.
- Heilings, Mrs. C.**, Plymouth Meeting. China Cup, 125 years old.
- Hendricks, Lizzie H.**, Norristown. Bottle, 100 years old. Two small Wine Glasses, very old.
- Hendrickson, Rev. W. C.**, Norristown. Communion Service, five Cups and a Ewer, of the old Dutch Reformed Church, of Philadelphia; 80 years old.
- Henry, Mrs. Rachel**, Germantown. Two silver Cake Baskets, presented by Martha Washington.
- Hewett, Mrs. Charles**, Jenkintown. Ancient silver Spoon.
- Heysham, Robert**, Norristown. China Cup and Saucer, 100 years old.
- Highley, Miss M. P.**, Norristown. Two Plates, 200 years old.
- Hodgkins, S. T.**, Norristown. China Cup and Saucer, and silver Gasket, over 100 years old.
- Homer, Mrs. Samuel**, Norristown. Two Bowls, Tea Pot, Plate and two Cups and Saucers.
- Hoover, Mrs. Hiram C.**, Hartranft. Whiskey Flask, brought before 1735 by exhibitor's grand-father; over 100 years old. Crossed the ocean three times. Spoons, over 100 years old.
- Hunsicker, Mrs. Ann**, Trappe. Round white Plate, from Europe two hundred years ago.
- Hunsicker, Mrs. A. D.**, Ironbridge. Tea Pot and Water Pitcher, both over 150 years old.
- Hunsicker Mrs. J. R.**, Norristown. Glass Mug, glass Dish, china Mug, and bottle, over 200 years old.
- Hunsicker, Miss Mary A.**, Kulpville. Glass Cup, about 100 years old.
- Hunsberger, Mrs. Joseph H.**, Worcester. Cream Jug, Sugar Bowl, Cup and Saucer.
- Hunsberger, Mary**, Skippack. Sugar Bowl, Cream Jug, Plate, and Saucer, over 100 years old; came from the Alderfer family.
- Hurst, Miss Anna**, Norristown. China Coffee Pot, Sugar Bowl, two Cream Pitchers, and one Cup and Saucer, 160 years old.
- Huston, Lizzie**, Blue Bell. Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Iredell, Sarah B.**, Norristown. Small Dish. Belonged to Hannah Iredell.
- Jacobs, Al.**, Norristown. Cream Pitcher, 150 years old.
- Jacobs, Miss B.**, Norristown. Sugar Bowl and Cream Pitcher, 180 years old.
- Jacobs, Mrs. M. S.**, Norristown. Water Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Jacobs, Mrs. Oliver K.**, Norristown. Cream Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Jacoby, Mrs. Kate B.**, Norristown. China Tea Set and Punch Bowl, 100 years old.
- Jarrett, Mrs. Annie**, Ambler. Pair of silver-plated Candlesticks, 68 years old.
- Jones, Mrs. C.**, Gulf Mills. China.
- Jones, Mrs. Evan D.**, Conshohocken. Plate 100 years old. Cup and Saucer, 60 years old.
- Jones, Mrs. Israel**, Norristown. Plate engraved "Capt. Jones of Macedonian"; over 100 years old.
- Jones, Mrs. John L.**, Jarrettown. Tea Pot and Coffee Pot. Silver Ware. Old china Plate. Gravy Boat, over 100 years old. Two old-fashioned Bowls.
- Jones, Mrs. Jonathan**, Lower Merion. China Mug, 160 years old. Presented to exhibitor by her grand-father, Jonathan Robinson.
- Jones, Josiah**, Oak Lane. Fruit Waiter and Tea Waiter, about 100 years old. Three china Flower Pots, over 100 years old. Illustrated Pitcher, 75 years old. Polychromatic Plate, over 100 years old. Two pieces child's Tea Set, over 100 years old. China Cup, for expectation.
- Jones, Margaret H.**, Oak Lane. Cup and Saucer, Bowl, and Cake Plate, over 100 years old.
- Jones, Mrs. Hary**, Bridgeport. Silver Candlestick, 1775.
- Jones, Mrs. Rachel**, Broad Axe. Tea Cup and Bowl, 150 years old. Tea Pot, 85 years old.
- Jones, Mrs. Sarah**, Gulf Mills. Glass Tumblers, etc., very old.
- Jones, Mrs. Sarah R.**, Conshohocken. Two silver Spoons, formerly owned by Joseph Corson, grand-father of exhibitor.
- Kalb, Mrs. Emma**, Frederick. Glass Salt Celler, 100 years old.
- Keech, Mrs. Joseph**, Lower Merion. Two china Plates and Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Keeler, Miss Edith**, Norristown. China Cup and Saucer and silver Spoon, 140 years old. Descended from an old Friend's family, and given for a wedding present.
- Kenderdine, Tacy**, Horsham. Tea Pot and Gravy Bowl, 150 years old.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Bread and Cake Basket, brought from Germany in 1719. Two old Pitchers and Milk Pitcher.
- Keyser, Mrs. David**, Trappe. China Set, supposed to be 100 years old.
- Keyser, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Trappe. Samples of complete China Set, over 100 years old, and owned by exhibitor.
- Kirk, Edwin**, Neshaminy. Silver Tea Spoon, over 115 years old. Belonged to Phoebe Thomas, great-grandmother of the exhibitor.
- Klair, Hester**, Norristown. Cup and Saucer, brought from Germany by exhibitor's great-grandmother.
- Kneule, Miss**, Norristown. Fruit Dish and five Plates, German silver, over 100 years old.
- Kniipe, Mrs. Dr. J. O.** Norristown. Two Parian Tea Pots, antiquated. Blue China Plate, illustrating the landing of Lafayette at Castle Garden in 1824.
- Knox, Mrs. Benjamin**, Blue Bell. Half dozen blue Plates and two Cream Pitchers, about 100 years old.
- Kohl, George M.**, Jenkintown. China Cup and Saucer, over 100 years old. Formerly owned by Rebecca Ritter, of Plymouth. Silver Set, in part. The set, of which this is a part, was presented to Nathaniel Boileau some time during his public career. He was a member of the Assembly and Speaker of the House in 1818, and afterwards Secretary of State. He died in 1850, aged 88. Britannia Cream Cup, age not known; brought from England. Decanter. Was used by Israel Michener, who kept tavern at Willow Grove about 1808. Two Mugs. Presented to the deceased wife of George M. Kohl by her grandmother about 60 years ago. Two silver Tea

- Spoons, about 70 years old. Dishes. Once the property of Martha P. Mather.
- Kookan, Miss Bertha C.**, Trappe. Tea Pot, 97 years old.
- Krause, Aaron**, Worcester. Four old Plates.
- Krewson, Mrs.**, Shoemakertown. Six silver Tea Spoons, 120 years old.
- Kriebble, Mrs. Anna**, Kulpville. Glass Stand, over 100 years old. Plates, Dishes, Mug and Pitcher, over 100 years old. Six silver Tea Spoons; exhibitor's grandmother's.
- Kriebble, Mrs. Franklin**, North Wales. Two Plates and a Bowl, 1817. Belonged to exhibitor's great-grandmother.
- Kriebble, Henry S.**, North Wales. Bronze Pitcher, 75 years old.
- Kriebble, Mrs. Isaac**, Mainland. Pitcher, 150 years old.
- Kriebble, Mrs. Joel**, West Point. Mug, over 100 years old.
- Kriebble, Septimus A.**, Kulpville. Tea Pot, 110 years old. Wash Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Kutz, Miss Ella**, Norristown. Tea Pot, 200 years old.
- Land, David C.**, Gwynedd. Small Mug and Saucer. Brought from Germany in 1700 by the mother of Mary Bean, wife of Jacob Cassel, late of Montgomery township. Cup, Saucer, and Plate. Marriage gift to Jacob Cassel and wife in 1806. Inkstand, said to be 160 years old; brought from Leipsic, in Germany. Belonged to Jacob Cassel, late of Montgomery township, and his ancestors.
- Landes, Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. China Bowl, brought over in the "Mayflower." China Plates, very old.
- Lane, Miss Rebecca**, Bridgeport. Large Punch Bowl, small Punch Bowl, and Cream Jug. Three of the pieces of china with which Jessie and Rebecca Roberts started housekeeping one hundred and three years ago.
- Leech, Mrs. Esther**, Shoemakertown. China Plate, about 200 years old.
- Levering, P. H.**, Norriton. Glass Sugar Dish and Cake Dish, over 100 years old.
- Lewis, Mrs. Mary**, Norristown. Plate, over 100 years old.
- Lightfoot, Ellen**, King-of-Prussia. Four Saucers, eight cups, Tea Caddy, Bowl, large Soup Plate, two small Plates, china Coffee Pot, porcelain Cream Jug, small Mug, and three china Plates, all from Canton, China; over 100 years old. Nine silver Tea Spoons and Sugar Tongs; style of 1782. Decorated Pitcher, old.
- Linsinbiger, Samuel**, Douglass. China Cup, 100 years old.
- Loch, John W.**, Norristown. Maison's Ironstone Ware, made by Maison in England; over 50 years old. None ever made in this country.
- Longacre, Mrs. E.**, Trappe. Seven styles china Plates, two Cups and Saucers, two Tea Pots, and Cream Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Lowe, Mrs. T. S. C.**, Norristown. Chinese carved ivory Basket. Two Chinese carved ivory Vases. Six old Dresden Plates. Lafayette Memorial Pitcher. Old hand-painted Saucer. Two antique Chinese porcelain Vases, hand-painted. Old Dresden Sevres Royal Blue, 160 years old. Rockingham Cup and Saucer. Carved Chinese Plate. Ancient Chinese Platter. Seven old Dresden flowered Fruit Plates. Salt Cellar, pink and glazed. Chinese Money Sword, made of old coins. Antique Cloisone Plaque. Old French china Tete-a-Tete Set. Old Dresden China, covered-dish, shape of cantaloupe. Franklin Memorial Tea Set, fifteen pieces. Bowl, Cup and Saucer, old blue. Diamond-cut glass Tumbler, over 100 years old. Pair of antique Japanese Cloisone Vases. Turkish Coffee Cup Holder. Old Japanese Plate. Two bronzed glazed Cream Jugs. Old Chinese Crackle Bowl. Two Canton China Bowls. Two old Preserve Plates, shell form. French china Water Pitcher. Rudolstadt China, 1762. Old China Fruit Plate and Nut Dish. Old India Salad Bowl. Old India Cream Jug, with cover and stand. Indian china Cup. Old India Cup. Carved Chinese Card Case, 170 years old. Seven silver Spoons, about 100 years old. Set of Sevres China, 153 years old.
- Lukens, Charles**, Conshohocken. Solid silver Pitcher, presented to Dr. Charles Lukens, uncle of the exhibitor, for services rendered during the cholera epidemic of 1835.
- Lukens, Mrs. Charles**, Conshohocken. India Cup, Saucer, and Plate, 100 years old.
- Lukens, Mrs. Jawood**, Conshohocken. Blue India Plate. Silver Pin-cushion, Ring, and Cushion, over 100 years old.
- Lukens, Mrs. Lewis A.**, Conshohocken. Silver-plated Snuffers and Tray. China Tea Pot.
- McClennan, Mrs. Walter**, Norristown. Antique china Punch Bowl, over 100 years old. Silver Spoon, brought from Scotland five generations ago.
- McGrath, Miss Hettie**, Blue Bell. Cups and Saucers, over 150 years old.
- McInnes, Miss Janet W.**, Bridgeport. Six hand-painted china Plates. Hand-painted Pitcher, Bowl, and Plate.
- Mackey, Mrs. Edmund R.**, Norristown. Silver Coffee Urn.
- Maden, Mrs.**, Swedeland. Plate.
- Mann, Mrs. Hannah S.**, Horsham, and **Sallie J. Shoemaker**, Springfield. Blue Queensware Tea Pot and Sugar Bowl, used by Jane Supplee Shoemaker, of Whitpain, eighty or ninety years ago.
- Mann, Mrs. John H.**, Horsham. Two large blue Meat Plates, used in the Mann family about a century.
- Markley Freundschaft, The.** China of Samuel and Mary Markley, 1820. Salt Cellar, 1756. Dishes of John Markley and Elizabeth Schwenk, his wife, 1785. One large blue decorated dish, with view of Niagara Falls, and dated 1774. Companion to this, same date, with view of Lake George. China Sugar Bowl, fancy Glasses, china Bowl, and fancy Box. Wedding presents to Abraham Bertolet, of Frederick, in 1788.
- Marshall, George**, Norristown. Pitcher and Cream Jug, used by the grandmother of the owner when in the service of General Washington's family, and given to her by them.
- Mather, Mrs. Annie M.**, Jenkintown. Baptismal Bowl and Sugar Bowl, over 100 years old.
- Mather, J. C.**, Jenkintown. Two Plates, over 100 years old.
- Mather, Mrs. C.**, Jenkintown. Pickle Dishes. Susan Pierie's, 1792. Punch Bowl. Part of Susan Pierie's outfit, 1792. Sugar Bowl, Cup, and Saucer, 70 years old. Belonged to exhibitor's mother.
- Mather, Miss Jane**, Philadelphia. Cake Plate, over 100 years old.
- Mather, Miss Martha**, Jenkintown. Soup Ladle (silver bowl) and silver Tea Strainer, about 180 years old. Shell and pearl Sugar Tongs, 180 years old.
- Mears, Mrs. Anne deB.**, Milestown. Blue fluted Cake Plate, 1750. Silver Sugar Tongs, 1814. Blue and white china Plate. Originally belonged to the Roberts family; it is considerably over 100 years old. India China. The exact date is not known, but it can be traced back from its connection with the family of the exhibitor's grandfather, the late Dr. George deBenneville (third of the name) for one hundred years. Mrs. Kemble, on one of her visits to the exhibitor, while resident of the neighborhood of Milestown, when shown this set of china, expressed great admiration of its antiquity and beautiful style, as she had never, in all her opportunities, seen any like it. The sets were composed of two tea pots, cream pitcher, two bowls (one of which was used for broken sugar as formerly used and handled with silver tongs), tea caddy, twelve cups, and twelve saucers. The plates seem to have been dispensed with in all the five sets used at home or in the family of the exhibitor's great-aunt, Mrs. Esther deB. Brunn.
- Miles, Mrs. William**, Ardmore. China Saucer, 100 years old. Presented to the exhibitor's grandmother, Margaret Holland, as a bridal gift.
- Miller, Miss Elmira T.**, Trappe. China Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Miller, Mrs. Matilda**, West Point. Four old china Cups and Saucers.
- Miller, Mrs. Samuel**, Jeffersonville. Caster, in the family two hundred years. Brought from France about 1680 by the Friele family. French Vase. Preserve Jar. Brought to Bordentown, N. J., by Joseph Bonaparte, when he fled from Spain. Coffee Pot, style used over one hundred years ago.
- Millington, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Gulf Mills. China Coffee Pot and Dish, very old.
- Money, Mrs. Samuel**, Norristown. China Plate, 100 years old.
- Moore, George C.**, Mainland. Flowered Tumbler, 100 years old.
- Moore Mrs. John**, Gulf Mills. China Plate and Cream Jug.
- Moyer, Daniel**, Frederic. Half dozen solid silver Spoons, 80 years old.
- Mullin, Samuel L.**, Prospectville. Set of China 100 years old.
- Murray, Mrs. C.**, King-of-Prussia. Cream Jug, over 100 years old.
- Naille, Mrs. Annie M.**, Royersford. China Pitcher, over 100 years old. China Mug, 108 years old. Glass Mug, 87 years old. Large Dinner Plate and Tea Pot, 52 years old. Dinner Plate, 55 years old.
- Neiman, Mrs. M.**, Fitzwatertown. Old-fashioned Tea Set, very antique.
- Nice, Mrs. George**, Worcester. Large Flask.
- Nightlinger, Mrs. George**, Shoemakertown. Old Pitcher.
- O'Neill, Mrs. James**, Norristown. Two china Dessert Dishes; have been in the family one hundred years.
- Overholtzer, Mrs. John**, Bridgeport. Two old china Plates.
- Owen, Mrs. William W.**, Norristown. Two antique china Plates

- and a small Pitcher, 300 years old; handed down from the Norris family. Antique china Cup and Saucer; handed down from the Shunk family.
- Painter, Mrs. William**, Norristown. Sugar Tongs. Belonged to Elizabeth Lillywhite in 1694. Tea Pot. Belonged to Rachel Crispin in 1708. Two Dishes. Belonged to Elizabeth McNeal, who died in 1815, aged 90.
- Paiste, Robert**, Norristown. China Sugar Bowl, Cream Jug, Slop Bowl, Plate, Saucer, and Cup, 100 years old.
- Pannepacker, Mrs. William C.**, Klein's. China Mug. Belonged to Jacob Cassel and Daniel G. Pannepacker over one hundred years; purchased by William C. Pannepacker in 1883. China Cup and Saucer. Belonged to David Grobb and Jacob Kline since 1784; now owned by William C. Pannepacker. China Cup and Saucer. Belonged originally to Jacob Cassel, afterwards to his daughter Susanna, and now to William C. Pannepacker; over 100 years old. Cream Jug, 60 years old; formerly owned by Jacob Kline. Plate, 108 years old. Owned successively by Jacob Cassel, Susanna Cassel, his daughter, and the exhibitor's husband. Cream Jug. Owned in 1736 by David Grobb. Dish, 80 years old. Owned formerly by the Kline, Walt and Pannepacker families.
- Pawling, Mrs. Dr.**, Norristown. Tea Pot, made in 1748.
- Pechin, John W.**, King-of-Prussia. Vases.
- Pechin, Mrs. William**, Norristown. Cream Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Phillips, Jonathan**, Abrams. Old China.
- Pomeroy, Mrs. H. S.**, Tureen and Plate. China Bowl and silver Cream Pitcher, over 100 years old. Pitcher, made of clay from Valley Forge, and presented to Mrs. Adam Slemmer forty-five years ago.
- Potts, Mrs. Ezekiel**, Bridgeport. Three china Bowls, painted; 200, 175 and 140 years old.
- Potts, Mrs. T. Chalkley**, Centre Square. Soup Dish, 100 years old.
- Potts, Mrs. William W.**, Swedeland. Pitchers. Belonged originally to Mrs. Sarah Hitner, the grandmother of William W. Potts.
- Price, Miss Lizzie**, Norristown. Five silver Tea Spoons.
- Price, William**, Norristown. China Coffee Pot, 200 years old.
- Prince, Lewis, Sr.**, Norritonville. China Cup and Saucer, 100 years old.
- Prizer, Ellwood**, Abrams. China Tea Pot, 105 years old.
- Quillman, Mrs. Phillip**, Norristown. Cups and Saucers, 100 years old.
- Rahn, Mrs. George H.**, Ironbridge. Cup and Mug. Belonged to the aunt of the exhibitor, Margaret Moser, who died November 21, 1854, aged 104 years, 4 months, and 16 days. Margaret Moser, maiden name Laver, was born in West Perkionien township, married George Moser, died at Trappe, and is buried at Trappe Lutheran Church.
- Ramsey, Mrs. Mary**, West Conshohocken. China Tea Canister, 150 years old.
- Rauch, Mrs.**, Swedeland. Dishes.
- Rawlins, Mrs. M.**, Lower Merion. China Cream Pitcher, over 150 years old. Punch Bowl, Cup and Saucer. Once the property of Jacob Christler, one of Washington's body guard.
- Reid, Mrs. Dr. John K.**, Conshohocken. India china Tea Pot. Cream-colored Tea Pot. China Gravy Bowl.
- Rex, Mrs. Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. China Cup and Saucer, painted. Belonged to a set owned by Mary Slingluff, mother of the late William H. Slingluff, of Norristown, and over 100 years old.
- Rex, Joseph**, Ambler. China Tea Pot, 90 years old.
- Rex, Miss M. D.**, Flouertown. Two Water Pitchers, 85 and 100 years old. Two Cream Pitchers. Tea Pot, over 150 years old. Cup and Saucer and Bowl. Tureen, over 125 years old.
- Richter, Mrs. F. C.**, Ashbourne. Britannia Tureen, Sugar Bowl, and Oil Lamp, 100 years old.
- Ritchie, E. S.**, Hatboro. Coffee Urn, buried during the Revolutionary war.
- Roberts, Mrs. Clara V.**, Norristown. Antique china Tea Pot, more than 150 years old. Antique china Plate, very old.
- Roberts, Mrs. Mary R.**, Norristown. Punch Bowl, 100 years old. Dinner Plate.
- Robinson, Mrs. Lewis**, Lower Merion. China Tea Canister, 150 years old.
- Rogers, Mrs. Hannah**, Oaks.
- Rotzell, Mrs.**, Norristown. Silver Sugar Tongs and Tea Spoon, 100 years old. Pitcher, 75 years old.
- Royer, Mrs. Dr. J. W.**, Trappe. Two china Plates, 80 years old.
- Rue, Louisa**, Norristown. China Plate, 200 years old. Butter Knife, three Table and six Tea Spoons, solid silver; made of coin-brought to this country by Robert Kennedy in 1776. Sugar Bowl, Coffee Pot, and Slop Bowl, lustre ware, over 100 years old. Two silver Candlesticks. Property of Robert Kennedy, during the war of the Revolution.
- Saylor, Miss Sallie**, Port Providence. Small Cream Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Schultz, Matilda**, Worcester. Three Cups and Saucers.
- Schultz, Solomon**, Fairview Village. Two Glasses.
- Schumo, Dr. Eugene**, Abington. Tea Spoon. Owned by Mrs. Mary Loller, wife of Robert Loller, who endowed Hathboro Academy; must be over 100 years old.
- Schweisfort, Harry**, Frederick. China Cup and Saucer, 75 years old. Stone ware Sugar Bowl, 100 years old.
- Schwenk, Mrs. A.**, Norristown. Half dozen small Spoons, from the Palatinate in Germany.
- Shafer, Mrs. Rebecca**, Fort Washington. Part of Scotch china Tea Set, including two plates, three cups and three saucers, one sugar bowl, and one plate; 125 years old. Brought from Scotland.
- Shainline, Jonathan**, Abrams. Three pieces of lustre Tea Set.
- Shaner, Mrs. Sarah**, Frederick. China Coffee Pot. In possession of exhibitor's family one hundred and twenty-six years.
- Shaw, C. H.**, Jeffersonville. Wine Goblets, 205 years old. Beer Mug, with a frog in it; ninety years in family.
- Shoemaker, Mrs. George**, Blue Bell. Cream Pitcher and Tea Pot, over 100 years old; from England. Four china Cups and Saucers, very old.
- Shoemaker, Sallie J.**, Springfield. See Mann, Mrs. Hannah S.
- Shoemaker, Mrs. Thomas S.**, Jarretstown. Silver Spoon, over 100 years old.
- Shreiner, Sarah P.**, Gwynedd. Cream Cup and Plate, made to order in China one hundred and twelve years ago. Cup and Saucer.
- Shupe, Miss Laura**, Trappe. China Cup, 104 years old.
- Sisler, Mrs. Edmund**, Pottstown. Two silver Spoons, over 100 years old.
- Slemmer, Miss Madge**, Norristown. Silver Ladle and half dozen Dessert Spoons, 130 years old.
- Slemmer, Mrs. William**, Norristown. Half dozen silver Tea Spoons, about 100 years old.
- Slifer, Dr. H. F.**, North Wales. Tea Pot, in the Davis family two hundred years. Two Cream Mugs, over 100 years old. Tea Cup and Sugar Bowl, over 100 years old. Soup Dish, 150 years old.
- Slingluff, Joseph**, Norristown. Two silver Tea Spoons, 100 years old.
- Slingluff, Mrs. William H.**, Norristown. Salt Cellar, over 200 years old. Blue China Plate, over 200 years old. Two old blue china Sugar Bowls. French china Fruit Bowl, over 100 years old; relic of the Slingluff family. Three old egg-shell French china Tea Cups and Saucers. Old china Cream Pitcher. Old Britannia Pitcher. Silver-plated Candlestick. Old Jewel Box. Twelve hand-plated Fruit Plates, painted by Miss Mary Rex in 1879.
- Smith, John A.**, Norristown. Two Cream Jugs and Cup and Saucer, over 100 years old.
- Snyder John H.**, Kulpville. China Cups and Saucers, Pitcher and Tea Pot, brought from Wales.
- Snyder, Mary W.**, Jeffersonville. Salt Cellar, over 100 years old.
- Snyder, Mrs. William**, Oaks. Tea Pot, 150 years old.
- Solomon, Mrs. William**, Norristown. Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Sower, Mrs. F. D.**, Norristown. Blue China Cup and Saucer, over 100 years old. Two blue Vases, 100 years old. Green china Plate. Small Cream Pitcher.
- Spencer, Mrs. Ella**, Jenkintown. Two Japanese Vases, very old and valuable. Plate and Cover.
- Springer, Brothers**, Kulpville. Tea Pot, Britannia ware, formerly owned by Mordecai Davis.
- Stannard, E. J.**, Broad Axe. China Sugar Bowl and china Plate, over 115 years old. Bridal present to exhibitor's grandmother. China Saucer, 110 years old.
- Stauffer, Mrs. Mary A.**, Fairview Village. Coffee Pot, Cup and Saucers, 100 years old.
- Stem, Mrs. Levi**, Whitpain. Gilt Cup and Saucer, nearly 100 years old.
- Stem, Martha**, Blue Bell. One dozen Spoons, made out of knee-buckles 140 years old.
- Stewart, Mrs. Eliza**, Abington. Oval Plate. Property of Anthony Benezet one hundred years ago.

- Stewart, Mrs. R. T.**, Norristown. A few pieces of China.
- Stewart, Mrs.**, Norristown. Three china Plates, each 85 years old Mustard Pot, 80 years old. Decanter, 95 years old; came from Ireland. Yellow china Pitcher, 100 years old; wedding present from the exhibitor's grandmother.
- Stinson, Miss Agnes**, Norristown. Mug, with food in it.
- Stout, S. K.**, Norristown. Plate, 150 years old.
- Streep, Mrs. Samuel**, Broad Axe. Cut-glass Urn, over years old. Silver Chain and Pin-cushion, very old. Four Wine Glasses, cut glass, 100 years old.
- Styer, Nathaniel**, Douglass. China Plate, 105 years old.
- Summers, Mrs. Samuel**, East Greenville. Two Salt Cellars, made of cut glass, and encased in a silver frame; more than 100 years old; brought from Germany.
- Supplee, Andrew**, Abrams. China Plates and Pitcher; oldest plate 150 years old.
- Supplee, Miss Kate**, Conshohocken. Tea Pot, 100 years old.
- Supplee, Myra**, Bridgeport. Part of china Set, 125 years old.
- Supplee, Mrs.**, Norristown. Silver Cream Pitcher, made from twenty silver dollars. Some old China.
- Swank, Mrs. D. C.**, Schwencksville. Wedgewood Butter Dish; brought from England seventy-five years ago by the grandparents of exhibitor.
- Swift, Samuel**, Norristown. Blue India Soup Tureen, 125 years old.
- Taggart, Miss Hannah**, Fort Washington. Plate, 75 years old.
- Taylor, Miss Mary**, Lower Merion. Half dozen china Cups and Saucers, over 100 years old. Two glass Salt Cellars and China Pepper Box, 125 years old.
- Taylor, Mrs. Robert A.**, Jarrettown. Iron stone Coffee Pot, made in 1795. Tea Set of metal, made in 1777. Plate of blue stone china, used in 1800.
- Teany, Mrs.**, Norristown. China Dish.
- Teas, George S.**, Horsham. Two Wine Glasses, china Plate, Fruit Dish, and Pitcher, over 100 years old.
- Thomas, Mrs. Samuel**, Norristown. Six Vases, 100 years old.
- Tomlinson, Amos Buckman**, Shoemakertown. China Plate, 75 years old.
- Tomlinson, Miss R.**, King-of-Prussia. China Pitcher and Sugar Bowl, 100 years old.
- Tripler, Mrs. Jacob L.**, Norristown. Two small silver Spoons 150 years old; brought from Scotland by Charles McKenzie.
- Trumbauer, J. B.**, Jenkintown. Inkstand, supposed to be 180 years old.
- Tyson, Mrs. Benjamin**, Skippack. Cup and Saucer.
- Tyson, B. F.**, Belfry. Porringer and Sugar Bowl.
- Tyson, Mrs. Emma**, Providence Square. Small china Pitcher.
- Tyson, Mrs. Sarah H.**, King-of-Prussia. Silver Sugar Tongs, over 100 years old.
- Umstead, Mrs. James**, Kulpsville. Gilt Pitcher; belonged to Grandfather Jacob Fry. Cream Mug, over 100 years old.
- Van Horn, Martha**, Plymouth Meeting. Tea Pot, 150 years old.
- Wager, Mrs. Henry**, Norristown. Sugar Bowl and Cream Pitcher, each over 100 years old.
- Wagner, Mrs. William**, Kulpsville. Small Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Walker, E. H.**, Jarrettown. Chin Cup and Saucer, 100 years old.
- Walker, Sarah S.**, Abrams. Spoon.
- Walt, F. K.**, East Greenville. Cream Jug and Sugar Bowl, 100 years old. Plate, 100 years old. Green Cup and Saucer, 100 years old. China Cup and Saucer, bought one hundred and eighteen years ago.
- Walton, Mrs. Amos**, Blue Bell. Half dozen old-fashioned Dinner Plates. Brass Spool Stand. Engraved Lamp. Sugar Bowl.
- Walton, Harry C.**, Blue Bell. Two bronze Pithers. Old-fashioned Tea Pot. Two Sugar Bowls and one Gravy Bowl.
- Weak, Mrs. Charles**, Jenkintown. Pair of Pickle Dishes, made from kaolin from Jenkintown.
- Weak, Mrs. Joseph**, Upper Merion. Ornamental Pitcher.
- Wear, Mrs. Joseph**, Upper Merion. Ornamental Pitcher.
- Weber, George M.**, Worcester. China Cup and Saucer, known to be 150 years old.
- Welkel, Ida B.**, Collegeville. Blue-edged Butter Plate, 100 years old.
- Welkel, John**, Collegeville. Cup and Spoon.
- Weinberger, Mrs. E. K.**, Collegeville. Part of a China Set, 1800.
- Wentz, Mrs. Thomas H.**, Norristown. Cup, Saucer and Sugar Bowl. 4 Plates, 100 years old.
- Weston, Mrs. Daniel**, Pricetown. Salt Cellar, belonged to exhibitor's great-grandmother, and is said to be 130 years old.
- Whitcomb, Catherine M.**, Jarrettown. Pair Silver Spoons, 125 years old. Pair Sugar Tongs.
- Widdifield, Mrs. Lewis**, Hartsville. Marble Punch Bowl; presented about the year 1800 by Daniel Hitner, Sr., of Marble Hall, to Col. William Hart, grandfather of exhibitor, of Hartsville, Bucks county; made at the quarry of Mr. Hitner.
- Williams, Mrs. Elizabeth S.**, Pittville. Silver Cup, 115 years old.
- Williams, Mrs. M. J.**, Jarrettown. China Cup and Saucer, made when only 13 States were in the Union. 2 China Cups and Saucers, 75 and 80 years old. 2 Gravy Bowls, 50 and 80 years old. Glass Cream Pitcher and Glass Salt Cellar, 80 years old. Meat Plate, 85 years old. 3 Round Plates, 50 years old. Brown Stone Ware, Cream Pitcher, 100 years old.
- Williams, Susan W.**, Pittville. China Punch Bowl. China Cup and Plate, supposed to be 200 years old.
- Williams, Mrs.**, Fitzwatertown. Pitcher and Plate.
- Wilson, Mrs. A. H.**, Conshohocken. Silver Chain and Ring for Pin Cushion. Silver Candlestick and Extinguisher.
- Wilson, Mrs. Eliza**, Norristown. Tea Pot, 110 years old.
- Wilson Family, The**, Jenkintown. Sugar Tongs, used since 1800.
- Wingate, Hester K.**, Norristown. Tea Pot, from Germany, by exhibitor's great-grandmother.
- Wolf, Mrs. George**, Plymouth. China Cups and Saucers, used 80 years ago. China Cups and Saucers, used 50 years ago.
- Wright, Mrs. William**, Conshohocken. Silver Ladle, 200 years old. 2 India China Plates.
- Wynn, Mrs. F.**, Overbrook. Pitcher.
- Yeakle, Daniel**, Chestnut Hill. Cream Pitcher, and 2 blue vegetable Dishes, over 100 years old.
- Yeakle, S. Y.**, Norristown. Cream Jug, 103 years old.
- Yerk, Mrs.**, Trappe. Blue Plate; from Europe, 100 years old.
- Yerkes, The Misses**, Norristown. Antique China.
- Young, Miss Annie**, Lower Merion. Half a dozen silver Tea Spoons, 100 years old.
- Zearfoss, Mrs. Horace**, Fairview Village. Five china Cups and Saucers.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Providence Square. China Cups and Saucers. Silver Spoons.
- Zimmerman, Esther**, Norristown. Small china Punch Bowl, 130 years old. China Cup and Saucer, 120 years old. China Cake Plate, 120 years old. China Cup and Saucer, 95 years old. Cup of Lafayette's time, with his picture on it.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. G. W.**, Collegeville. Six china Cups and Saucers, 100 years old. Five Wine Goblets and five Plates, 100 years old.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. Joshua**, Collegeville. Plate, over 75 years old.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. J. M.**, Yerkes. Glass Cream Jug. Cup and Saucer.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. Lorenzo**, Norristown. Large Punch Bowl 100 years old.
- Zimmerman, Sylvester**, Blue Bell. Silver Teaspoons, about 100 years old.

CLASS XIV.

ANTIQUARY WEARING APPAREL AND JEWELRY.

- Allebach, Mrs. Henry V.**, Kulpsville. Infant's Cap, home-made, nearly 100 years old.
- Ambler, Aaron**, Norritonville. Cigar Case. Pocket Book.
- Anders, Andrew**, Kulpsville. Linen Chemise, 130 years old.
- Anders, Joseph**, Fairview. Hat, over 100 years old, belonged to Abraham Anders.
- Anderson, Emma**, Abrams. Silk Stockings; worn by a bride 75 years ago.
- Armitage, Jacob**, Jenkintown. Lady's Felt Hat, worn 100 years ago.
- Baird, Mrs.**, Norristown. Old Bead Bag.
- Bartman, Mrs. Mary R.**, Trappe. Pair Infant's Slippers, from Canada.
- Bechtel, Mrs. A. D.**, Royersford. Grandmother's Riding Whip, 90 years old.

- Bechte l, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Douglass. Old Hat or Bonnet, 85 to 90 years old.
- Bell, Mrs.**, Centre Square. Two Shawls; buried during the Revolution.
- Berger, Mrs. J. F.** North Wales. Skirt of White Dress, embroidered by Mary Ann Stover.
- Bickel, Mrs. E. B.**, Norristown. Apron, 120 years old. Wedding Dress and Shoes, worn by Mrs. Heebner, in 1790, and loaned by Mrs. Nelson. Infant's Shoes, 1790.
- Bickel, Mrs.**, Norristown. English Watch.
- Blair, David T.**, Hatboro. Pair of Spectacles, belonging to Peter N. Hagerman; 136 years old. White Frock which belonged to Adrain Cornell. He was christened in it 1779.
- Boorse, John C.**, Kulpsville. Buttons and four Shoe Buckles, worn by Baltzer Heydrich, 1790. Two Shoe Buckles, worn by exhibitor in 1864.
- Branin, Ann**, Jenkintown. Baby's Corded Bonnet.
- Brooke, Mrs. H.**, Norristown. Clothing.
- Brunner, Miss Mary**, Worcester. Shawl.
- Bult, George T.**, Whitpain. Copper Cuff Button, 1744.
- Cassel, Abraham H.**, Harleysville. Silk Wedding Glove of Mrs. Yelles Cassel, 1808.
- Cessel, Isaac R.**, North Wales. Dress of exhibitor, worn when young.
- Colton, Mrs. Ann C.**, Jenkintown. Gold Watch, used since 1760.
- Comly, Ellwood**, Three Tuns. Silver Watch, made in 1670.
- Conard, Ella V.**, Port Kennedy. Pocket Book, embroidered by Elizabeth E. Edwards, 125 years ago.
- Conover, Mrs. C. L.**, Frederick. Badge, worn by Andrew Marker, when Lafayette visited America in 1824.
- Cope, O. W.**, Hatboro. Pocket Book, brought over by William Fletcher in 1682. Gold Watch, made in Copenhagen in 1630; an heirloom of one of the royal family of Norway. Copper Button, made in 1788 to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution; unique.
- Corson, Mrs. George N.**, Norristown. Lady's Dress, worn in the 18th century, by the daughter of Francis Rawle, who came over to this country with William Penn. It is a satin hand-quilted skirt, and overdress hand painted.
- Corson, Mrs. Dr. Hiram**, Conshohocken. White Silk Shawl, with colored border. Linen Baby Dress, made about 1748.
- Craven, Mrs. Alice**, Davis Grove. Slippers, embroidered in 1776 by Miss Elizabeth Cornell, who afterwards married Isaac Vansant; Wilhelmus Vansant, son of this couple, was the father of the exhibitor.
- Cresson, Mrs. William L.** Norristown. Hat and Dress, brought from China, by Dr. E. F. Corson, U. S. N., before any Commercial Treaty had been made with that Power. Alpenstock.
- Curwen, George F.**, Villa Nova. Doll and Dress, 120 years old.
- Dager, Mrs.**, Norristown. Wooden Comb, over 120 years old.
- Dannehower, Mrs. Frank**, Springhouse. Baby Dress, 10 years old.
- Davidheiser, Mrs. Sallie**, Douglass. Slippers made in 1843.
- Davis, Mrs. Hannah** Conshohocken. Silk Shawl, 200 years old Silk Shawl.
- Davis, Jesse B.**, Norristown. Red Sash, worn at Benjamin Franklin's funeral.
- Davis, John J.**, Jenkintown. Shoe, from Wales.
- Day, Mrs. Richard H.**, Philadelphia. Old Gold Sleeve Buttons, painted, in hair.
- Deal, Mrs. Hannah**, Bryn Mawr. Masonic Silk Handkerchief, 150 years old.
- Detwiler, Jones**, Blue Bell. Antique Snuff Box, 80 years old. Curiously Carved Walking Cane, very old.
- Dorworth, Joseph H.**, Norristownville. Traveling Companion, 84 years old.
- Dotterer, Philip**, Chestnut Hill. Lady's Riding Whip, with silver furrule, used by Katy Younkun, of Tinicum, Bucks county, before and after her marriage, about 1798, to Conrad Dotterer, of Frederick township. Exhibitor is a grandson of this couple.
- Drake, Mrs. Aram**, Kulpsville. Wedding Gloves of John Lukens, 1753. Pocket Book, 1776.
- Darrin, Mrs. Thomas**, North Wales. Cane, made from the boat Alliance.
- Eckard, Jane E.**, Abington. Reticule, 110 years old. Antique and modern Fans, contrasted. Antique Collar, embroidered. Tortoise Shell Comb, over 100 years old. Infant's Cap, embroidered. Lady's Embroidered Cap. Embroidered Short Sleeves. Wedding Slippers, 117 years old. Waist of Wedding Dress, worn 117 years ago.
- Edwards, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Kulpsville. Mitten. "This is the mitten given by the ladies as a token of rejection in ye olden time."
- Edwards, Mrs. Humphrey**, Kulpsville. Pair Home-made Wedding Mitts, over 100 years old.
- Ervien, Mrs. Howard**, Shoemakertown. Small Shoes, 75 years old.
- Erpenship, John**, Norristown. Silver watch, 100 years old. Silver Breast Pin, very old.
- Evans, Charles**, Abrams. Silver Watch, 100 years old; not running.
- Evans, Gertrude**, Hatboro. Pocket Book, dated 1762; worked with various colored worsted and lined with pink silk.
- Evans, J. S.**, Gwynedd. Felt Hat, worn in 1750 by Mrs. Evans when she went riding on horseback.
- Evans, Mrs. Priscilla**, North Wales. Lady's Cap, 125 years old.
- Evans, William G.**, Norristown. Pair of Slippers, 1721.
- Faust, Mrs. H. H.**, Frederick. Large Irish Silk Handkerchief, 60 years old.
- Felton, Mrs. Joseph**, Jenkintown. Gold Watch, dated inside 1776.
- Fatterolf, Mrs. A. D.**, Collegeville. Grandfather's Umbrella, 100 years old.
- Fitzwater, Mrs. Joseph**, Port Providence. Lady's Hat, worn 100 years ago.
- Fox, Mrs. C.**, Collegeville. Wedding Shawl of exhibitor's mother, 1816.
- Frey, Mrs. Jacob**, Douglass. Home-made Stocking, 50 years old.
- Fryer, Miss Fanny S.**, Skippack. Pair of Linen Stockings made by Susanna Schmoyer, owned by Mrs. Fanny S. Fryer; 100 years old. Home-made Spectacles, 200 years old.
- Fryer, Henry S.**, Skippack. Wedding Shawl of Mary Shoemaker, wife of Bernhart Fryer, married April 27, 1783. Home-made Shirt, worn by Bernhart Fryer; 70 years old.
- Garsed, Mrs. Robert P.**, Norristown. Antique Dress, worn previous to 1810, and owned by Mrs. Hannah Pennypacker, Schuylkill, Pa.
- Gerhart, Mrs. Eliza**, Douglass. Black Shawl, 120 years old, Hair Comb, 125 years old.
- Godshalk, Jacob M.**, Kulpsville. Gingham Apron, 100 years old.
- Green, Mrs. Harry**, Davis Grove. Knee Breeches.
- Griesmer, Mrs. Rachel**, East Greenville. Beaver Hat, 120 years old.
- Griffith, Miss Hannah**, Jenkintown. Pocket Book, made in 1777.
- Griggs, Miss Clara**, Norristown. Silk Dress, over 100 years old.
- Griscom, Mrs. Joseph**, Jenkintown. Lady's Dress and Calash.
- Hallman, A. S.**, Norristown. Pocket Handkerchief, 1734.
- Hallman, Mrs. Lewis**, Hartranft. Lady's wrapper, over 100 years old.
- Hallman, Mrs. William F.**, Skippack. Fan, supposed to be 100 years old; presented to exhibitor by her grandmother.
- Hallowell, Mrs. C. R.**, Norristown. Silk Dress and Stockings, worn in 1795.
- Hamill, Miss**, Norristown. Large Fan, used as a sun shade, 100 years old. Hand-made Lace Collar, very old. Pair Hand-made Linen Gloves, 100 years old.
- Hange, Mrs. M.**, Worcester. Lace Infant's Cap, 60 years old.
- Harley, David B.**, Kulpsville. Shoe Buckle, worn by Christopher Saur.
- Harps, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Jenkintown. Satin Cloak, worn seventy-five years ago.
- Harry, Miss Anna**, Conshohocken. Silver Watch and Key, 90 years old.
- Harvey, Mrs. J. J. C.**, Jenkintown. Shoe Buckles set with stones, worn by Dr. Beatty.
- Heacock, Annie**, Jenkintown. Pair of Kid Gloves, worn in 1824.
- Heacock, E. W.**, Jenkintown. Baby's Hood, 100 years old. Gloves made in Montgomery county.
- Heebner, P. D.**, Norristown. Pen Knife, 125 years old.
- Helm, Miss Mary**, Philadelphia. Wedding Dress and Wedding Slippers, worn by Susan Pierce, 1794.
- Hobson, Mrs. F. M.**, Collegeville. Linen Handkerchief, over 100 years old.
- Hoffman, Mrs. H. A.**, Frederick. Infant's Robe worked by exhibitor.
- Homer, Mrs. Anna**, Norristown. Shoe Buckle, over 100 years old.
- Howe, Mrs. Hannah K.**, Norristown. Black Crepe Dress, years old.

- Hurst, Miss Anna**, Norristown. Short Gown, over 100 years old. Dress, 100 years old. Lace Veil, 96 years old.
- Hutton, Mrs. Addison**, Bryn Mawr. Little Girl's Silk Dress. Silk Dress, 60 years old. Black Satin Slippers, 60 years old. Three Infants' Dresses, about 50 years old.
- Iredell, Phoebe**, Norristown. Cloak, worn over 100 years ago by exhibitor's great-grandmother.
- Iredell, Robert**, Norristown. Lady's Riding Hat, over 100 years old.
- Jarrett, Mrs. Annie**, Ambler. Spectacles, 150 years old. Silk Mantilla, 100 years old.
- Jenkins, Mrs. Eliza**, North Wales. Six Silver Buttons, 150 years old, family relics.
- Jones, Josiah**, Oak Lane. Gold Watch, with Case. Silver Watch and Chain, 150 years old.
- Kawarick, Mrs. Sebastian**, Jenkintown. Shoe Buckle, set with cut stones, worn 150 years ago.
- Keisel, Miss Annie**, Ambler. Tatting Handkerchief.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Four Hats, from 70 to 100 years old. Two Caps. Two George Washington Suits; a Quaker Suit; and two William Penn Suits. Three Pairs Shoes. Cane, belonged to the first beer-maker in this country.
- Kirk, Edwin**, Neshaminy. Silver Wedding Ring, belonged to A. E. Bodey, married 1782.
- Kite, Mrs. George R.**, Norristown. Pink Silk Petticoat, taken from a man-of-war, in 1812. Piece of Calico, over 100 years old.
- Kneeder, Mrs. Jacob H.**, North Wales. Crape Shawl and Silk Stockings, wedding apparel, 45 years old.
- Kohl, George M.**, Jenkintown. Cane, cut by the late Nicholas Kohl on his property near Willow Grove, Moreland township, and finished about 1843. The sapling from which it was made, grew in a stone pile. It grew with the small end at the ground, thus entirely reversing the laws of nature.
- Kookan, Miss Bertha C.**, Trappe. Ancient Breast Pin and two Rings.
- Krewson, Mrs. John**, Philadelphia. Two Reticules, made by Mary Leech, Hatboro, 1770.
- Krewson, Mrs.**, Shoemakertown. Two pairs Spectacles, over 100 years old.
- Kriebel, Abraham K.**, Kulpsville. Grandmother's White Dress.
- Kriebel, Mrs. Isaac**, Mainland. Gray Beaver Hat, 100 years old. Gray Silk Bonnet, 100 years old.
- Kriebel, Septimus A.**, Kulpsville. Silk Handkerchief, 100 years old. Shawl, 100 years old.
- Kulp, Elias K.**, Lederachville. Money Purse of Beadwork, the workmanship of Barbara Hunsicker, and by her presented to Isaac H. Kulp; it has the phrase "Love and Friendship" worked on it; about 60 years old. Necklace, made by the late Benjamin Kulp, the exhibitor's father.
- Land, David C.**, Gwynedd. Spectacles of the grandfather of the late Jacob Cassel, surveyor, of Montgomery township.
- Landes, Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. Money Belt, worn for many years.
- Leister, Mrs. David**, Douglass. Wedding Dress, 75 years old. Three-cornered Shawl, 75 years old; embroidered by the exhibitor's mother when 12 years old. Square White Shawl, embroidered in colors; 75 years old.
- Lightfoot, Ellen**, King-of-Prussia. Pair of Silk Mitts, worn by ladies in beginning of 1800. Wedding Hat, worn October 30, 1782.
- Lowe, Mrs. T. S. C.**, Norristown. Old Silk Chinese Fan. Carved Fan from China, 250 years old. Old Muslin Chinese Fan. French Beaded Vinaigrette. Knee and Shoe Buckles, worn in 1779. Old Chinese Satin-paper Fan. Two Carved Chinese Fans. French Snuff Box, 1780.
- Lukens, Mrs. Jawood**, Conshohocken. Green Silk Calash, worn about the beginning of the present century. Silver Shoe Buckles, set with brilliants.
- Lukens, J. R.**, Horsham. Beaver Hat, 100 years old.
- McCarty, Samuel**, Norristown. Cane, 100 years old.
- Mackey, Mrs. Edmund R.**, Norristown. Old-fashioned Dress.
- Maderia, The Misses**, Jenkintown. Combs, about 70 years old.
- Mann, Jesse**, Pittville. Cane.
- Mann, Mrs. Jesse**, Pittville. Leather Overshoes.
- Mann, John H.**, Horsham. Pair Silver Spectacles, 50 years old.
- Mann, Mrs. John H.**, Horsham. Pair Linen Mitts, made and worn by Miss Rachel Shoemaker, Whitpain, eighty years ago.
- Markley, John, Sr.**, Schwenksville. Pocket Book, dated 1769. Made by Jacob Markley, grandfather of the exhibitor.
- Markley Freundschaft, The.** Tobacco Box of Paul Markley, from Frankfort, Germany, 1745. Crossed the Atlantic nine times. Cane of John Markley; 100 years old.
- Mather, Mrs. C.**, Jenkintown. Pearl Snuff Box. Tabitha Phoenix's; about 100 years old.
- Mather, Miss Mary W.**, Jenkintown. Reception Slippers, worn by Susan Pierle, 1792. Dress, worn about eighty years ago. Coat and Breeches, worn seventy-five years ago.
- Miller, Samuel**, Jeffersonville. Coat, worn by exhibitor's father, Joseph Miller, when married, in 1825.
- Mock, Mrs. Jacob Frederick**. White Linen Shawl, over 100 years old.
- Molony, Mrs. Dr.**, Norristown. Hand-embroidered Infant's Cap, 60 years old.
- Morey, Miss Amanda**, Douglass. Paper Kerchief.
- Moyer, Daniel**, Frederick. Small colored Shawl, 120 years old.
- Naile, Miss Annie M.**, Royersford. Pair of black satin Slippers, made in 1811.
- Nice, George T.**, Jenkintown. Spectacles, very old.
- Nyce, George S.**, Frederick. Infant's Cap, worn by exhibitor.
- Owen, Mrs. William W.**, Norristown. Silk Cloak, nearly 100 years old; worn by the exhibitor's great-grandmother Schrack, Carved Shell Comb, over 100 years old.
- Painter, Mrs. William**, Norristown. Baby Dress, made by Mary Cole. Masonic Apron, very old. Fan. Belonged to Elizabeth Allmeyer, who died in 1771.
- Pannepacker, Miss**, Klein's. Pair of Shoes, 44 years old. Black Cap, 100 years old.
- Pawling, Mrs. Dr.**, Norristown. Vinaigrette, of the olden time.
- Pechin, John W.**, King-of-Prussia. Shawl, brought from Australia. Cane, owned by Mr. Sisler in 1812.
- Pennock, Mrs. Joseph**, Hartranft. Shawl.
- Peterson, Frederick**, Collegeville. Ancient Breast Pin, presented by an English lady twenty-five years ago. Fan, carved from a block of wood with a pocket knife.
- Phillips, Jonathan**, Abrams. Antique Clothing.
- Quillman, Mrs. Jacob**, Norristown. Dress made in 1804; worn by Mrs. Lorentz Jacoby.
- Quillman, Mrs. Philip**, Norristown. Infant's Shirt, 80 years old. Two Infant's Caps, over 50 years old. Neck Handkerchief, 67 years old.
- Rambo, Mrs. Martha**, Oaks. Fan, 125 years old; originally owned by Mrs. Horning. Black velvet Slippers, brought from England by Mrs. Lane; now owned by her granddaughter. Light satin Slipper, 100 years old. Chinese Slipper, 115 years old; formerly owned by Mrs. Weir. Infant's Cap, made by Mrs. Weir, one hundred and twenty-five years ago.
- Ramsey, Ellen D.**, Abrams. Child's Cap, embroidered by Jane Peterson fifty years ago.
- Rawlins, Mrs. M.**, Lower Merion. Coat and Vest, once the property of Jacob Christler, one of Washington's body-guard.
- Reichelderfer, Mrs. Chester F.**, Collegeville. Grandmother's Night Cap, over 100 years old.
- Reid, Mrs. Dr. John K.**, Conshohocken. Two Bonnets.
- Reiff, Mrs. Enos L.**, Ambler. Silver Snuff Box, formerly the property of the exhibitor's grandfather.
- Rennard, Mrs. David**, Edge Hill. China Snuff Box. Used in company in General Washington's time.
- Renninger, Mrs. Mary A.**, Douglass. Night Cap, 120 years old.
- Rex, Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. Silver Button.
- Rex, Mrs. Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. Infant's Clothing, about 60 years old. Ancient Night Cap.
- Rex, Mary S.**, Blue Bell. Sword Cane, 60 years old, silver mounted, with a buck-horn head. Once owned by John Rex, of Whitpain, who used to say laughingly that it was for protection against dogs when he went courting. Velvet Reticule, with an ancient clasp; about 75 years old. Formerly owned by Mary Slingluff, of White-marsh. Bead Purse. Formerly owned by Maria Moore, of Gwynedd.
- Richards, Mrs. M.**, Norristown. Piece of linen Underwear. The flax was spun and woven, and the lace was made by one of the Richards family, one hundred and fifty years ago.
- Ridpath, J. W.**, Jenkintown. Pocket Book, in the family nearly one hundred and fifty years; containing deed of 1793, and other old papers.

Rieg, John, Jenkintown. Silver frame and steel Spectacles, circular lenses.

Rittenhouse, Samuel, Fairview Village. Pocket Book.

Roberts, Mrs. Mary R., Norristown. Child's Dress, 60 years old.

Roberts, Septimus, Whitpain. Knee Buckles.

Rosenberger, Mrs. I. D., North Wales. Two white Skirts, over 100 years old. One was the property of exhibitor's grandmother, Mary P. Howell.

Royer, Mrs. Elizabeth, Trappe. Leghorn Bonnet, worn at a reception to Lafayette in Philadelphia in 1827.

Rue, Louisa, Norristown. Parasol, property of Ellen Kennedy during the Revolution; now of exhibitor.

Satterthwaite, Edwin, Jenkintown. Tapestry Pocket Book, used by John Hallowell in the early part of this century.

Schaefer, Miss, Norristown. Chinese Hat, 50 years old. Small white Plug Hat.

Schultz, Amos, Niantic. Hand-made Pocket Book. A wedding present by Mrs. Abraham Schultz to her husband in the year 1771.

Schultz, Solomon, Fairview Village. Beaver Hat, 1708.

Schweinhart, Miss Emma, Douglass. Satin Handkerchief, 80 years old.

Shambough, Jackson, Collegeville. Old silver Buttons.

Shannon, Mrs., Norristown. Pair of Slippers, 100 years old.

Shearer, Miss Alice W., Oaks. Antique Dress, trimmed with pea fowl feathers. The dress was worn by a Miss Ramsey at a ball in New York City, to which she was accompanied by Gen. George Washington, who danced with her. The dress is in a good state of preservation.

Shearer, Mrs. E. Norris, Jeffersonville. Dress, 100 years old.

Sheppard, Mrs. Elizabeth, Norristown. Two Dresses 75 years old.

Shoemaker, Hannah Y., Norristown. Silk Boots, brought from Japan ninety years ago. Bonnet, 100 years old.

Shoemaker, Mrs. Thomas S., Jarrettown. Pair of silk Mitts, age not known. Infant's Shawl and Hood, made by exhibitor. Lady's Shoulder Cape, embroidered by exhibitor.

Shreiner, Sarah P., Gwynedd. Two worsted Pocket Books. Two bead Reticules, made by Sarah Taylor in 1783. Handkerchief and Bag. This bag was used in 1789, to carry the handkerchief.

Shultz, John, Norristown. Pair of Spectacles, very old.

Shupe, Mrs. Frank, Trappe. Check linen Apron, spun one hundred and forty years ago, and made in the style of that time. Pairs of Mitts, 97 years old.

Sisler, Mrs. Edmund, Pottstown. Pocket Book, over 100 years old.

Slater, Mrs., Norristown. Shawl, worn by General Washington's nurse.

Slemmer, Mrs. William, Norristown. Chinese Fan, brought from China about one hundred years ago.

Slifer, Dr. H. F., North Wales. Part of Mrs. Peale's Handkerchief. Velvet Cap, ornamented with silver from Jerusalem; old.

Slingluff, Mrs. Charles, Norristown. Reticule, 95 years old; very odd.

Slingluff, John, Fairview village. Spectacles and Case, of the Revolutionary time.

Slingluff, Joseph, Norristown. Tortoise shell cased Watch, 125 years old.

Slingluff, Mrs. William H., Norristown. Parasol, owned at one time by H. Schlater. An old Fan. Tortoise shell Comb. Swiss Infant's Cap, 150 years old.

Slingluff, Mrs. W. F., Norristown. Tortoise shell Comb.

Smith, John A., Norristown. Silk Neck Scarf, 140 years old.

Sower, F. D., Norristown. Two Washington Badges. One of plain white satin, the other of figured white silk, having printed upon them, in black ink, a finely engraved bust portrait of Washington in General's uniform, encircled with the words: "Washington, Father of his Country." One Washington Breast Pin, worn in 1818. Lafayette Funeral Badge. The design on it is an urn standing upon a pedestal, surrounded by the American and French flags; upon the die of the pedestal is a medallion of Lafayette. It is printed in black ink on white silk, and bears the following words: "State Fencibles, 1st Co. A Grateful Nation's Mournful Tribute. Gen. Gilbert Motier Lafayette. Born in Auvergne, Sept. 6th, 1757. Died May 20th, 1834. Aged 76 years, 8 months, and 14 days. Funeral obsequies performed to his memory July 21st, 1834. Philadelphia."

Spencer, Mrs. Ella, Jenkintown. Satin Dress Sleeve, worn by the mother of exhibitor seventy-five years ago. Tapestry Pocket Book.

Stackhouse, Mrs. Joseph, Jarrettown. Fan, made of canvass Made in England, and brought to this country in Washington's time.

Stannard, E. J., Broad Axe. Pair of Spectacles, worn by Jemima Wilcocks, the exhibitor's great-grandmother, one hundred and twenty years ago.

Stannard, Mrs. E. J., Broad Axe. Comb, 85 years old. Collar, worked and worn by Eliza Shepard, the exhibitor's stepmother, eighty-five years ago.

Steiner, Mrs. J. F., Norristown. Silk Dress Waist, worn one hundred years ago. Old style knit Purse.

Stewart, Mrs. Eliza, Abington. Black satin Bonnet and Cloak, nearly 140 years old. Homespun linen Apron, 130 years old. Two large Inside Pockets, much in use among the ladies years ago. Pair of satin Slippers, 100 years old. Baby's Bonnet, 1820. Two Infant's Caps, 1815. Piece of Calico Dress worn during the Revolution, and a piece of Dress purchased at the same time.

Stout, S. K., Norristown. Riding Habit, 100 years old. Dress, 80 years old. White satin Reticule, embroidered at Bethlehem boarding school in 1805.

Stover, C. S., Kulpsville. Parchment Pocket Book and Knife, used by exhibitor's great-grandfather.

Stover, Matthias S., North Wales. Pocket Book, of calf Skin. On the inside compartments are cut out the date "1762" and the letters "A. C.," the initials of the name of Anna Clemens, the exhibitor's grandmother. The name of the exhibitor's father, Abraham Staver, also appears. On the outside are stamped tulips and an ornamental border. Size $5\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Streep, Mrs. Samuel, Broad Axe. Silk Badge, worn by a lady when Lafayette entered Philadelphia.

Supplee, Mrs., Norristown. Old-fashioned Money Purse.

Swartley, Emeline S., Skippack. White Vest, worn by Zenas Saride for his wedding, in Coventry township, one hundred years ago, and owned by his daughter, Mrs. Hannah Bossert.

Swift, Samuel, Norristown. Pair of white satin Slippers, 160 years old; wedding slippers of Margaret McCall.

Thomas, Mrs. Abel, Royersford. Mother's wedding Shawl and Collar, made by Mr. Bringhurst's sister.

Tripler, Mrs. Jacob L., Norristown. Infant's Dress, over 80 years old.

Trumbaur, J. B., Jenkintown. Wedding Vest, 32 years old.

Unruh, Mrs. Edward, Weldon. Tapestry Pocket Book.

Utzy, Mrs. George, Jenkintown. Lacquer Snuff Box, used in and brought from England.

Walker, E. H., Jarrettown. Silver Spectacles, 100 years old.

Walker, Sarah S., Abrams. Jewelry.

Walton, Eber, Blue Bell. Old-fashioned Pocket. Hook and Eye, over 70 years old.

Way, Mrs. George P., Jenkintown. Two Leghorn Bonnets.

Webster, Mrs. Sarah, Jenkintown. Figured silk Bandana, believed to be 200 years old.

Weinberger, Mrs. E. K., Collegeville. Amber Beads, 1790. Lady's Riding Whip and Fan, 1800. Grandfather's wedding Stockings, 1793.

Wentworth, Mrs. George B., North Wales. Wild Turkey Fan, 125 years old; made of the tail of a wild turkey.

Whitcomb, Catharine M., Jarrettown. Pair of Spectacles over 100 years old.

Willard, J. Monroe, Ashbourne. Baby's Shoes, over 100 years old.

Williams, Mrs. Elizabeth S., Pittville. Lady's Riding Whip 110 years old.

Williams, Frank, Pittville. Cane.

Williams, Mrs. M. J., Jarrettown. Two Infant's dresses, over 50 years old. White Silk Shawl, embroidered with floss, 50 years old. Silver Watch.

Williamson, Mrs. Dr., Trappe. Large tortoise shell Comb, 75 years old.

Wilson, Mrs. A. H., Conshohocken. Bead Bag.

Wilson, Mrs. Frank, Norristown. Leghorn Bonnet, 50 years old.

Wilson, Mrs. Dr. F. S., Jarrettown. Lady's satin Sleeve, former, fashion, worn in 1780 by Catharine Rex, great grandmother of Mrs. Hannah E. Wilson and Jacob L. Rex.

Wolf, Mrs. George, Plymouth. Tortoise shell Comb, worn in 1800.

Wood, Mrs. Ann L., Conshohocken. Old Crewel Pocket Book.

Worrell, Ellsha, Centre Square. Quaker Coat, 185 years old ; made of silk.

Wright, Mrs. Comly, Norristown. Infant's Stays, 200 years old ; came from one of the first settlers in Germantown. India Cashmere Shawl, introduced into Philadelphia in the latter part of the seventeenth century.

Wright, Mrs. William, Conshohocken. Gold Watch, 150 years old. Gold Buckle. Silver Buckle. Silver Knee Buckle.

Wurflein, Mrs. John, Edge Hill. Pair of gold enameled Ear rings, at least 125 years old ; made and worn in Germany by the great-grandmother of Mr John Wurfelein.

Yeakle, S. Y., Norristown. Felt Hat, 100 years old.

Yerkes, Martha, Huntington Valley. Handkerchief, embroidered by Ann Potts.

Yerkes, The Misses, Norristown. Clothing.

Yost, Mrs. Isaac, Centre Square. Infant's lace Cap, 48 years old.

Young, Miss Annie, Lower Merion. Silver Watch and Chain, 150 years old.

Young, Miss Margaret, Trappe. Calico wedding Dress, 140 years old. Owned by Mrs. Moser.

Zearfoss, Mahion, Blue Bell. Cane, 125 years old. First used by Samuel Hagy.

Zimmerman, Mrs. G. W., Collegeville. Beaded Reticule.

Zimmerman, Mrs. J. M., Yerkes. Slippers, 100 years old.

CLASS XV.

ANTIQUE HANDIWORK IN SILK, FLOSS, OR WOOL ; NEEDLEWORK AND LACES.

Acker, Mrs. Dr. E. L., Norristown. Sampler, 100 years old.

Alderfer, Miss Mary, Collegeville. Pin Cushion, over 100 years old.

Allebach, Mrs. Henry V., Kulpville. Needlework, nearly 100 years old.

Anders, Andrew, Kulpville. Table Cloth and Towel, over 100 years old ; fine needlework.

Anders, Mrs. George S., Kulpville. Needlework, 1804.

Anders, Joseph S., Fairview Village. Frame of old Zephyr Flowers. Vase of Lilies. Vase of Hyacinths.

Anderson, M. P., Trappe. Album Quilt, belonging to Rebecca Zimmerman. Sampler, worked in 1829 by R. Bean.

Armitage, Hannah, Jenkintown. Sampler, 1803.

Atkinson, Robert, Bryn Mawr. Sampler, dated 1787.

Bean, Mrs. Peter, North Wales. Bureau Cover, 103 years old ; made by Sarah Haas.

Berger, Mrs. J. F., North Wales. Sampler, made by Mary Ann Stover in 1825.

Bevan, Mrs. Emily, Hartranft. Embroidery, worked in 1827.

Bickel, Mrs. E. B., Norristown. Piece of Curtain Calico, 100 years old.

Blackfan, Mrs. Joseph, Norristown. Sampler, worked in 1801. Work Box, 100 years old.

Blackfan, Miss, Norristown. Specimen of Darning, 1814.

Bright, Mrs. S., North Wales. Embroidered Handkerchief, done by Elizabeth Wanner, aged 12, in 1776.

Brown, Christopher, Port Kennedy. Stand Cover, needle work, by Sarah Brown, fifty years ago.

Carr, Mrs. Streepier, Plymouth. Sampler, made in 1791 by Mary Streepier, aged 11 years, of Barren Hill.

Colton, Mrs. Ann C., Jenkintown. Fire Screen, in form of a sampler, worked in 1788.

Cope, O. W., Hatboro. Picture of Dog, worked in silk on satin ; done in 1740, when 15 years old, by Elizabeth Ferguson, the only daughter of Sir Will'm Keith.

Corson, Mrs. George N., Norristown. Specimens of Embroidery, 75 years old.

Craft, Mrs. Jacob, Norristown. Pen Holder, over 100 years old.

Cresson, Mary J., Norristown. Pin Cushion, made from a piece of the altar cloth presented by Queen Anne to Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church, Southwark, Philadelphia.

Cresson, Miss Sarah, Conshohocken. Bureau Cover, 60 years old.

Davis, John J., Jenkintown. Sampler, 1813. Pin Cushion, old.

Detwiler, Mrs. Milton V., Oaks. Old Sampler.

Eckard, Jane E., Abington. Lace Veil 100 years old. White Lace Mitt, 100 years old. Square of Lace Needlework, about 120 years old. Three pieces of antique Lace. Three specimens of embroidered Indian Muslin. Small silk embroidered Portfolio. Antique Window Curtains, more than 100 years old.

Edwards, Mrs. Humphrey W., Kulpville. Home-made Laces. Frame, over 100 years old.

Elkinton, Mrs. George, Blue Bell. Sampler, dated 1697 ; worked by Mary Sergeant, born at Kingston-on-Hull, and the great-great-grandmother of exhibitor. Sampler, made by "Sarah Sergeant who ended this in the 12th yr of her age, 1741." It is remarkable for the freshness and beauty of the silks. Three Samplers and specimen of Darning, wrought by Mary Sergeant, great-aunt of the exhibitor, at Ackworth school, in 1783, 1785 and 1786. The last is a copy of one of Cowper's hymns. Sampler, without date. Sampler, marked "Ellis Storr of Scarborough her Sampler, 1705," containing good advice, copies of remarkable dogs, family names, and monograms. Sampler, worked by M. Megson in 1780. Contains representations of animals, trees, etc. ; also two ships, The Hope and The Dove.

Eshbach, Mrs. Abraham, Norristown. Pocket Companion, 145 years old.

Fillman, Mrs., Norristown. Ancient white satin Pin Cushion.

Fisher, Mrs. John, Worcester. Sampler.

Fitzwater, Mrs. Joseph, Port Providence. Pin Cushion, 100 years old. Embroidery, hand-made, by Sarah Brover, over sixty years ago. Fancy homespun Towel, made one hundred years ago.

Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox, Norristown. Two Samplers, in one frame ; work of Sarah Ann Leedom, afterwards Mrs. Thomas P. Knox, while a school girl, in 1826 and 1827.

Foulke, Annie J., Conshohocken. Sample of Darning, by Hannah Foulke, in 1808.

Fryer, Mrs. Barney, Skippack. Sampler, made before marriage by the exhibitors' grandmother, Catharine Yeakel, who was born in Towamencin township, August 11, 1764, and who was married to George Anders, in 1793.

Garsed, Mrs. Robert P., Norristown. Sampler, worked in 1806.

Gotwals, Mrs. John U., Oaks. Watch Case, 150 years old. Owned by J. Gotwals.

Graffy, Miss Sallie, Flourtown. Quilt, over 100 years old. Every patch in it cost seventy-five cents per yard.

Haines, Mrs. Robert B., Cheltenham. Pin Cushion, 65 years old. Work Bag, 140 years old. Sample Frame, made by Margaret Wistar in 1738, being then in her 9th year. She was the daughter of Caspar Wistar, of Philadelphia, who came from Hilsbach, near Heidelberg, Germany, at the age of 21, landing in this country on September 16, 1717. She was a benevolent, kind-hearted woman, and did much to relieve suffering humanity. She was active in administering relief in the time of the yellow fever in 1793, and died of that disease on the 3d of Tenth Month, 1793. This worthy woman was the great-great-grandmother of the exhibitor's husband, Robert B. Haines, and the great-great-aunt of the exhibitor, Margaret Wistar Haines, the families being reunited by the marriage of her descendants in 1852.

Hallman, Mrs. William F., Skippack. Work Box, inlaid with straw ; made by John Ziegler, the exhibitor's father.

Hallowell, Mrs. C. R., Norristown. Sampler, 1791.

Harley, Mrs. L., Port Providence. Homespun linen Towel, embroidered seventy years. Beaded Purse, 100 years old. Work Box, brought from Wales one hundred years ago.

Harps, Mrs. Elizabeth, Jenkintown. Pin Cushion, old.

Harrison, James, Spring House. Watch Case.

Heebner, John S., West Point. Two pieces of Needlework, from Europe, dated 1733 and 1749.

Helm, Mrs. A., Philadelphia. Silk Quilt, 70 years old.

Hervis, Mrs. William A., Bryn Mawr. Sampler, worked by Abigail Corbett in 1741.

Hobson, Miss Mary M., Collegeville. Samplers, 1788, made by Mary Lewis, the great-grandmother of exhibitor.

Hoffecker, R. F., Norristown. Hand-painted Box, 125 years old.

Hollingshead, Charlotte, Upper Merion. Four ancient Samplers.

Homer, Mrs. Anna, Norristown. Pocket Pin Cushion and Chain, over 109 years old.

Hoover, Hiram C., Hartranft. Two Pin Cushions, from Bethlehem.

Hout, Mrs. George, Three Tuns. Watch Case, brought by Mr. Williams from Wales one hundred and fifty years ago. On the back of it is a portrait of his daughter Mary.

Hughes, Mrs. William, King-of-Prussia. Sampler.

Huston, Lizzie, Blue Bell. Two Needle Books, worked in silk.

Jarrett, Anna R., Jeffersonville. Hand Bag, made from the lining of Benjamin Franklin's vest.

- Jones, Mrs. Eleanor**, Jenkintown. Lady's Work Box, made by Micmac Indians about 1800; covered with birch bark and ornamented with porcupine quills.
- Jones, Frances E.**, Oak Lane. Picture, done in needlework, hair, and paint; 100 years old.
- Jones, Miss Margaret**, Oak Lane. Two Bead Bags, 70 years old.
- Jones, Margaret H.**, Oak Lane. Tufted Bureau Cover, 70 years old.
- Jones Mrs. M.**, Lower Merion. Sampler, 90 years old.
- Keely, Mrs. Jacob**, Royersford. Picture, done with needle and thread, on white paper; 90 years old.
- Knight, Miss C. E.**, Ambler. Floss Silks, brought from Canton, China; 75 years old.
- Knox, Mrs. A. Jackson**, Plymouth. Box, painted by Miss Isabella Crawford in 1820. Sampler, worked by Miss Sarah Rice; dated 1794. Sampler, worked by Mrs. Andrew Knox. Name on it, Rebecca Rice; dated 1790. Painting on Velvet, executed by Miss Isabella Crawford in 1820.
- Kooker, Miss Bertha C.**, Trappe. Sampler, 46 years old.
- Koplin, Mrs. Mary W.**, Norristown. Needle Case, 100 years old. Sample of Drawn Work, 100 years old.
- Kriebler, Mrs. Isaac**, Mainland. Two pieces of Needlework, 125 and 147 years old.
- Leister, Mrs. David**, Douglass. Three-cornered Shawl, 75 years old. Embroidered by exhibitor's mother when 12 years old. Square white Shawls, 75 years old; embroidered in colors.
- Lightfoot, Ellen**, King-of-Prussia. Sampler, made in 1848. Specimen of Needlework, 1778.
- Lukens, Jonathan R.**, Horsham. Sampler, made in 1789 by Martha Tomkins, of Philadelphia, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Tomkins. Martha Tomkins and William Lukens were married in 1804, and were the grand-parents of the exhibitor. William Lukens was a farmer, and owned the farm in Horsham township upon which the exhibitor now resides. Frame, containing birds made of feathers. Done by Martha Tomkins about ninety-five years ago.
- Lutz, Bella**, North Wales. Sewing Basket, 150 years old; from exhibitor's great-grandmother.
- McGowan, Miss I. S.**, Norristown. Sampler, made in 1785.
- McNeil, Mrs. George G.**, Blue Bell. Work Basket, 100 years old. Formerly owned by Elizabeth Bisbing (afterwards Miller), of Springfield.
- Madeira, The Misses**, Jenkintown. Pin Cushion, about 70 years old.
- Mann, Mrs. Hannah S.**, Horsham, and **Sallie J. Shoemaker**, Springfield. Antique Purse, Needle Case and Pin Cushion, used eighty to ninety years ago by Jane Supplee Shoemaker, of Whitpain, grandmother of the exhibitor.
- Markley, Freundschaft, The**, Sampler of Ann H. Markley, 1820.
- Mather, Mrs. C.**, Jenkintown. Lace, made from linen braid by Alice Armstrong. Lady's Companion, presented to Mrs. Susan Armstrong by her intended, in 1792. Sampler, worked by exhibitor's sister in 1831. Bureau Cover, 70 years old.
- Mather, Miss Martha**, Jenkintown. Needle Book, 80 years old, Cushion with Chain, 100 years. Pin Cushion.
- Mills, Mrs. William**, Ardmore. Sampler, worked by exhibitor's aunt, Elizabeth Holland, in 1799, when 10 years of age.
- Miller, Mrs. Samuel**, Jeffersonville. Beaded Bag, worked by Mary E. Gable in 1812, in Philadelphia.
- Moore, Edwin**, Port Kennedy. Sampler, 1825, by Phoebe Moore.
- Moore, Mrs. S. E.**, Shoemakertown. Poem, on the death of George Washington. Printed on satin.
- Moss, Miss Rebecca**, Jenkintown. Silk Belt, embroidered in fashion of sixty years ago. Silk Apron, embroidered, from Paris, sixty-four years ago. Ten Commandments, worked on linen.
- Murray, Mrs. S. C.**, King-of-Prussia. Sampler.
- Naillie, Miss Annie M.**, Royersford. Two home-made linen Towels, worked in many designs of different colors; 76 and 80 years old. Home-made Laces.
- Nyce, George S.**, Frederick. Large open-work Picture, executed by the late Adam Slemmer in 1819.
- Owen, Mrs. William W.**, Norristown. Sample of Darning on canvass, done in 1812 by Debby Logan Norris at Westtown Friends' school. Canvas Work. Copy of Norris family Coat-of-arms, left unfinished at death of Eunice Norris.
- Painter, Mrs. William**, Norristown. Needlework, at the age of 80, by Mary Cole, who was born in 1621.
- Palste, Robert**, Norristown. Two Samplers, over 80 years old.
- Pannepacker, Mrs. William C.**, Pin Cushion. Patch of the dress of Barbara Schuttler when she was a girl of 10 years, in 1777.
- Pannepacker, Miss**, Klein's. Two Tidies, 70 and 100 years old.
- Pawling, The Misses**, King-of-Prussia. Two pieces of silk embroidery, viz.; a Basket of Fruit, on black satin; a Boquet of Flowers, on white satin. Both something over 100 years old.
- Pechin, John W.**, King-of-Prussia. Sampler.
- Pomeroy, Mrs. H. S.**, Norristown. Sampler, 83 years old.
- Potts, Mrs. William W.**, Swedeland. Infant's Basket. Belonged originally to the mother of Mrs. Counsellor Ross, and contained her infant clothing at her birth, July 17, 1754; hence it is 130 years old. Presented by Mrs. Major Holstein, of Norristown, to the exhibitor.
- Rambo, Mrs. J. R.**, Norristown. Sampler, made by Debby Logan in 1781.
- Rambo, Mrs. Susan**, Bridgeport. Embroidered Bag. Belonged to S. Rambo in 1769.
- Ramey, Miss S.**, Norristown. Sampler.
- Reld, Mrs. Dr. John K.**, Conshohocken. Samplers, 1818.
- Reiff, Mrs. Enos L.**, Ambler. Sampler of Point Russe, made by exhibitor fifty-six years ago.
- Reiff, Miss Sallie W.**, Ambler. Embroidered Sampler, made by exhibitor's grandmother, Mary Lewis, in 1788.
- Renninger, Miss Mary A.**, Douglass. Quaint Sewing Box, Germany, with old painting on the lid of Jonah and the whale.
- Rex, Mrs. Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. Knitted Card Basket. A gift to Mrs. Rex from John B. Sterigero, Esq., at a fair for St. John's Church, held in the old court house, at Norristown, forty years ago.
- Rex, Mary S.**, Blue Bell. Sampler, worked in 1783. Formerly owned by Maria Moore, of Gwynedd.
- Rex, Miss M. D.**, Flourtown. Sampler, over 100 years old.
- Ridpath, J. W.**, Jenkintown. Herder's Companion, to hold knitting needles and ball of yarn while walking and knitting; made of one piece of wood.
- Roberts, Mrs. Clara V.**, Norristown. Lace Work. Bridal veil, done fifty-five years ago.
- Rogers, Mrs. George W.**, Norristown. Frame Sampler. Worked by a little girl of 12, in the year 1796.
- Rossiter, Mrs. George G.**, Blue Bell. Sampler, worked by Catherine Bernhart in 1829.
- Rudy, John**, Norristown. Very old Work Box. Presented to Mrs. John Rudy by her grandmother.
- Rue, Louisa**, Norristown. Pin Cushion and Needle Cases, 100 years old.
- Schlatter, Mary Amanda**, Norristown. Sampler.
- Schultz, Joseph**, Worcester. Several Samplers.
- Shainline, Jonathan**, Abrams. Sampler; a landscape, by Jane Shainline.
- Shearer, Mrs. E. Norris**, Jeffersonville. Needlework Counterpane, made in 1828 by Mrs. Shearer. Needlework Counterpane, executed in 1806 by Mrs. Charles Norris. Needlework on Paper, executed by Elizabeth Schrack ninety years ago.
- Shearer, Mrs. J. S.**, Oaks. Silk Globe, made by Ann Williams; 150 years old.
- Shoemaker, Mrs. Hannah S.**, Horsham. French Embroidery, slipper pattern; done by exhibitor in 1860.
- Shoemaker, Hannah Y.**, Norristown. Bureau Cover, 100 years old.
- Shoemaker, Isaac**, Norristown. Sampler, pretty work, 1832.
- Shoemaker, Mrs. Richard C.**, Jarrettown. Pin Cushion, made in 1800.
- Shoemaker, Sallie J.**, Springfield. Embroidered Night Dress, done twenty-five years ago. White Muslin Skirt, style of twenty-five years ago; embroidered and owned by exhibitor. See Mann, Mrs. Hannah S.
- Shoemaker, Mrs. Thomas S.**, Jarrettown. Sample of Darning and Sampler, done by Anna Bonsall at Westtown boarding school in 1812; both owned by exhibitor. Pin Cushion, over 100 years old.
- Shreiner, Sarah P.**, Gwynedd. Basket, 106 years old. Belonged to exhibitor's great-grandmother. Combination Work Bag, 109 years old. Sampler, made in 1804 by Sarah L. Taylor, grandmother of the exhibitor.
- Shultz, John**, Norristown. Two Bureau Covers, very old.

- Slingluff, Mrs. William H.**, Norristown. Knitting Basket, very old.
- Stannard, Mrs. E. J.**, Broad Axe. Sampler, worked by the exhibitor's great-grandmother, Mary Satterthwaite, in 1783.
- Steiner, Mrs. J. F.**, Norristown. Sampler, worked in linen spun and woven ninety years ago.
- Stem, Mrs. Levi**, Whitpain. Sampler, worked by Rachel Selsor over one hundred years ago. Silk Needle Book, worked in floss. Silk, 75 years old. Sampler, over 100 years old. Worked to represent a pine-apple on canvas.
- Stewart, Mrs. Eliza**, Abington. Two Pin Cushions, 1780 and 1784. Samplers, very old. Two embroidered satin Stove Holders, 1730.
- Stewart, Mrs. R. T.**, Norristown. Sampler, 100 years old.
- Stillwell, Mrs. Clara**, North Wales. Two Mats, antique. Two plaited Mats.
- Stiteler, Mrs. Edwin D.**, Gulf Mills. Sampler.
- Stockdale, Hannah F.**, Gwynedd. Thread Case, made in 1768 by the exhibitor's great-great-aunt.
- Stout, A. D.**, Edge Hill. Sampler.
- Stout, S. K.**, Norristown. Easter Egg, hand-painted, in 1830.
- Streep, Miss Amanda**, Broad Axe. Sampler, made by Grandmother Shay in 1805.
- Supplee, Myra**, Bridgeport. Three Samplers, worked by exhibitor in 1821.
- Swartley, Emeline S.**, Skippack. The first piece of Sewing Machine Work, done in cloth fifty years ago. Owned by Hannah Buzard.
- Thomas, Anna B.**, Upper Merion. Needlework, done in 1774.
- Thomas, Anne L.**, Upper Merion. Five very old Samplers.
- Tyson, B. F.**, Belfry. Three pieces of Embroidery, 30 years old.
- Tyson, Mrs. Sarah H.**, King-of-Prussia. Needlework of Mrs. E. H. Roberts, done from 1814 to 1825.
- Unruh, Mrs. Edward**, Weldon. Sampler, ancient.
- Unruh, Misses R. and K.**, Weldon. Bureau Stand Cover.
- Walton, Eber**, Blue Bell. Sampler, worked in 1834 by Alëvia Walton (formerly Shaw), of Whitpain township. It contains the names of her parents and words of advice to her brothers and sisters.
- Walton, Harry C.**, Blue Bell. Sampler, worked with vines and flowers. Done in 1818 by Alëvia Shaw, of Richland township, Bucks county, who afterwards married Eber Walton, of Whitpain township, and died in 1880.
- Weinberger, Mrs. E. K.**, Collegeville. Souvenirs of Needlework, to be worn on watch case, 1800 and 1812. Wall Pocket and Pin Cushion, 1795.
- Wilson Mrs. Lizzie**, Plymouth Meeting. Embroidery in Silk, done in 1790 and 1793 by Rebecca Maris.
- Wood, Mrs. Ann L.**, Conshohocken. Sampler, 1767.
- Wright, Mrs. Comly**, Norristown. Ancient piece of French Embroidery. Sampler, made by Hannah Gibbons, Fifth-month, 1775.
- Yerkes, Martha**, Huntingdon Valley. Pin Cushion, from the Potts family.
- Young, Miss Annie**, Lower Merion. Sampler, dated 1797.
- Zimmerman, Esther**, Norristown. Sampler, 1734. Contains the English alphabet in large capitals and small letters, the Episcopal church creed, and the Lord's Prayer; was worked by Isabella Best in the year 1734, when she was 9 years of age, as appears thereon. She was afterwards a governess in the family of Henry Pawling, Esq., of Lower Providence township. One of his descendants was married to the exhibitor's sister, Rebecca Pawling, from whose hands it came to the exhibitor. Sampler, 1775. Bears the alphabet in capitals and small letters, with marginal decorations; was worked by the exhibitor's aunt, Sarah Butler, of Upper Dublin township, in the year 1775, at which time she was but a child. Work Basket, over 100 years old.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. Joshua**, Collegeville. Pin Cushion, over 100 years old. Two Samplers, 1818.
- Zimmerman, Mrs. J. M.**, Yerkes. Silk Cushion, pieced by a lady 76 years old.
- Anders, Edwin**, Kulpsville. Fancy modern Quilt.
- Anders, Joseph S.**, Fairview Village. Lambrequin.
- Anderson, Kate**, Abrams. Silk Quilt, patty-pau pattern, 8,500 pieces. Darned Net Tie, 1884.
- Anderson, Mrs. M. P.**, Trappe. Wreath of Hair flowers, modern; made of the hair of the Zimmerman family.
- Auge, Miss E. M.**, Norristown. Large case, containing Hair Wreath, 1884.
- Bean, A. J.**, Worcester. Pillow Shams. Tidy.
- Berger, Mrs. J. F.**, North Wales. Sofa Pillow modern.
- Beyer, Mrs. Ida**, Worcester. Patchwork Quilt, modern.
- Brooke, Mrs.**, King-of-Prussia. Cushion.
- Brown Christopher**, Port Kennedy. Picture of a Bird; 50 years old; made of feathers.
- Cascaden, Mrs. Robert**, Norristown. Two knit Bedspreads, modern work.
- Conard, Ella V.**, Port Kennedy. Sofa Pillow and silk Quilt by Eliza Conard, in her 65th year. Braided Pillow Shams, by Eliza C. Walker, 1876.
- Conrow, Mrs. George E. B.**, Norristown. Painted slate Table Top, 1882.
- Cottman, Mrs. J. F.**, Jenkintown. Embroidered Piano Cover, modern needlework.
- Crawford, Mrs. V. Virginia**, Bryn Mawr. Pin Cushion and Bureau Cover, modern. Jug, ornamented, modern.
- Cresson, Mrs. Caleb**, Oaks. Towel, made by the exhibitor's daughter, 10 years old.
- Davis, Miss Mary**, Jenkintown. Modern Point Collar.
- DeHaar, Mrs.**, Norristown. Fancy work: hand-made lace Handkerchief, Stomacher, and Cuffs.
- Ebersole, Mrs. S. A.**, Hartanft. Silk Quilt, made in 1883.
- Eckard, Jane E.**, Abington. Three specimens of India Muslin, embroidered. Two tatting lace Collars, modern. Brocaded Silk. Satin Portfolio, embroidered with silk. Painting on Rice Paper.
- Elliott, Miss S. E.**, Jenkintown. Modern Point, Beadwork, and Lace.
- Ferguson, Miss Belle P.**, Cheltenham. Modern Embroidery.
- Fillman, Mrs.**, Norristown. Embroidered Toilet Cover.
- Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox**, Norristown. Piece of Embroidery, worked on flannel by Mrs. Anne B. Fornance, 1882.
- Freedley, Miss S. S.**, Norristown. Two panel Pictures of Flowers, painted by Sophia S. Freedley, of the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, 1883. China Cups and Saucers, hand-painted, modern.
- Fry, Miss**, Plymouth. Fire Screen, modern work.
- Garsed, Mrs. Robert P.**, Norristown. Specimens of Drawing and Painting by Montgomery county pupils at the Philadelphia School of Design for Women. Two china Plates, hand painted, modern. Two Cups and Saucers, hand-painted, modern.
- Gilbert, Miss Elizabeth**, Norristown. Plush Table Cover and satin Banner.
- Griscom, Mrs. Joseph W.**, Jenkintown. Fire Screen, embroidered modern. Table Cover, embroidered on linen in wash silks. Lady's Knit Sack. Shelf Cover, Oriental crazy work. Purse, in red silk and beads.
- Groff, Mrs. Catharine**, Worcester. Patchwork Quilt, modern.
- Gumbes, Mrs. F. S.**, Oaks. Counterpane, made in the present day by exhibitor.
- Harper, Mrs. Thomas B.**, Jenkintown. Lady's lace Sack, made by a gentleman.
- Haws, Katie**, Jeffersonville. Pillow and Sheet Shams.
- Heebner, Mrs. C. B.**, Collegeville. Velvet Cushion.
- Hobson, Mrs. F. M.**, Collegeville. Two knit Counterpanes.
- Hobson, Miss Mary M.**, Collegeville. Crazy Quilt.
- Hoffecker, R. F.**, Norristown. China Painting on cups and saucers.
- Hoffman, Mrs. H. A.**, Frederick. Sofa Cushion, worked by exhibitor.
- Hollinshead, Charlotte**, Upper Merion. Pocket Book, made from a piece of Lafayette's coat.
- Holstein, Charles E.**, Bridgeport. Inlaid Box, from the Lakes of Killarney, representing scenes in Ireland.
- Hughes, Miss Anua**, Gulf Mills. Fancy work, modern. Crane and Sunflower.
- Jones, Margaret H.**, Oak Lane. Modern work. Ancient adorning of Cards.
- Keisel, Miss Annie**, Ambler. Tatting Tidy, modern fancy work. Crochet Feather Edging.

CLASS XVI.

ARTISTIC HANDIWORK, THE PRODUCT OF EITHER BRUSH, PENCIL, OR MODELING, KNIT, CROCHET, OR NEEDLEWORK, OF OUR OWN TIME.

- Aldred, Mrs. J. A.**, North Wales. Cloth Quilt, modern.
- Ambler, Aaron**, Norritonville. Embroidered Table Cloth.

Kiesel, Miss Lizzie, Ambler. Knit woolen Mittens, modern fancy work.

Knipe, Miss Amanda, North Wales. Hair Wreath, 900 fine flowers, made by exhibitor.

Kohl, George M., Jenkintown. Urn, painted by the owner.

Kookon, Miss Bertha C., Trappe. Crewel embroidered Dress. French embroidered Pillow Shams.

Krieble, Abraham H., Kulpville. Sun Quilt, new.

Lauderbach, Miss M., Norristown. Knitted Sack, 1884.

Leister, Mrs. H. F., Phoenixville. Set Bed Spread and Pillow Shams, darned in net; worked by exhibitor. Small Afghan. Linen Towel, worked in scarlet.

Lenzi, Anne C., Norristown. Tile. Chrysanthemums, painted in oil. Tile. Pansies, in oil. Pottery Vase, with roses in relief.

Lightfoot, Ellen, King-of-Prussia. Pin Case, made from Penn's treaty elm tree, with an autograph letter of Roberts Vaux. Patchwork Quilt.

Lunens, Mrs. Jawood, Conshohocken. Modern Plaques, made in Antwerp.

Mann, John H., Horsham. Specimen of Free Hand Drawing, by Albert Mann, 18 years of age.

Moore, Emma, Port Kennedy. Needlework, 1883.

Moyer, Mrs. Harry W., North Wales. Embroidered Towel, made by the exhibitor. Sofa Pillow, made by the exhibitor.

Naille, Miss Annie M., Royersford. Canvas Toilet Set, worked in old gold floss.

Painter, Mrs. William, Norristown. Needlework, 1861.

Randle, Mrs. William, Jenkintown. Mantel Lambrequin, embroidered, modern. Fire Screen, embroidered, modern.

Rex, Mary S., Blue Bell. Vase, hand-painted, with black-eyed Susans. Cup and Saucer, painted with Michaelmas daisies. Twelve Dessert Plates, painted by the exhibitor. Plaque, painted by the exhibitor.

Rothenberger, Mrs. Ella, Kulpville. Afghan, new.

Royer, Mrs. Dr. J. W., Trappe. Two German Scissor Pictures, cut from Black paper. Group of Mexican Feather Pictures of birds; made of feathers laid on a dark background.

Shainline, R. Janie, Abrams. Work and Embroidery, from Merion school, 1884.

Sheive, Mrs. Mary, Norristown. Case of ancient and modern Needlework and Fancy Embroidery.

Sherridan, Mrs. Thomas, Collegeville. Silk Quilt, 4,562 pieces.,

Shoemaker, Mrs. Thomas S., Jarrettown. Painted Plaque with glass. Lambrequin, worked by the exhibitor and Miss Minnie Robertson, of Gwynedd. Whisk holder. Old Chair, with the worked seat, and Tidy; ancient and modern combined. Seed Wreath, made by exhibitor from two hundred and one different kinds of seeds.

Slemmer, Mrs. H. W., Norristown. Silk Quilt, modern.

Slemmer, Mrs. William, Norristown. Silk Crazy Quilt, modern.

Spencer, Miss Lillian, Jenkintown. Decorated Mull Window Curtains. Tropical birds, flowers, and grasses. The first attempt of the artist, when but 15 years of age, and without a previous lesson; remarkably true to nature. Window Lambrequin. Altheas on muslin. Painted from the flower. Window Lambrequin. Painted sea weeds, very difficult of execution; unique.

Stackhouse, Mrs. Joseph, Jarrettown. Fruit work, of cloth; made by exhibitor in 1830. Stand, made of Job's tears, in 1853, by Mrs. Evans, of Philadelphia.

Stewart, Mrs. Eliza, Abington. Bureau Cover, made by Miss P. Stewart, and owned by Emily Stewart.

Stillwell, Mrs. Clara, North Wales. Carriage Afghan, modern. Fancy Box.

Strassburger, Mrs. J. A., Norristown. Vase, hand-painted.

Swartley, Emeline S., Skippack. Rose Bud and Leaves of chenille, done in cloth. Made at Williams' Grove, Cumberland county, at the Grangers' picnic, August 20 to 24, 1884. Piece of Hair Painting.

Swartley, Mrs. Vienna, Fairview Village. Lap Cover, macreme cord, modern.

Taggart, Martha, King-of-Prussia. Fancy Work, 1884.

Taylor, Miss, Blue Bell. Macreme Work, modern.

Thompson, Mary L., Jenkintown. Drawings, from objects and copies, by pupils of Audenried public school.

Unruh, Misses R. and K., Weldon. Embroidered Bureau Cover, modern. Embroidered Stand Cover, modern.

Way, Mrs. George P., Jenkintown. Bureau Cover, Mexican lace.

Weber, Mrs. John, Worcester. Sofa Cushion.

Williams, Miss Emma C., Jarrettown. Wreath of Zephyr Flowers, made by the exhibitor. Decorated Thermometer, ribbon work.

Williams, Miss Hannah E., Jarrettown. Toilet Set, worked on Java canvas by exhibitor. Wall Pocket, made of cones, by exhibitor. Painted Plaque, in velvet frame on easel; painted, framed, and easel made, by exhibitor.

Wise, Mrs. J. S., Flourtown. Crazy Patchwork. Crochet Lace.

CLASS XVII.

SCHOOL BOOKS, OLD AND NEW.

Blackfan, Miss, Norristown. Copy Book, written in 1814.

Boorse, John C., Kulpville. Four Copy Books of Baltzer and George Heydricks, 1783 to 1794.

Buck, William J., Jenkintown. Two MS. Instruction Books for the Piano. Prepared by Charles Fortman for his pupil, Jacob E. Buck, in 1814-16. MS. Instruction Book in Vocal Music. By Joseph Hess, for his pupil, Miss Catharine Afterback, wife of J. E. Buck, 1815-16. Columbian Orator, 1817. A school book, once popular, becoming rare. Toy Geography, with numerous copper-plate engravings, Philadelphia, 1800.

Cassel, Abraham H., Harleysville. The Child's Guide to Spelling and Reading. Philadelphia, 1810. Fourth edition. The Parlor Primer, for Children. Philadelphia, 1814. The Symbolical Primer, with 492 cuts. Philadelphia, 1830. The First Book in Phonetic Reading. London, 1853. Spelling Book: A New Guide to the English Tongue. By Thomas Dilworth. Thirty-sixth edition. 1773. This book was extensively used in England and America ever since 1740, and for many years the only one in America, and was used yet in some parts of this county in the recollection of Mr. Cassel. The last edition was printed in New Haven in 1827. The old editions had a full-page likeness of the author, a very comprehensive preface, a dedication to the schools of Great Britain and Ireland, a full-page poetic compliment to its Reverend author, besides numerous recommendations, all over the date of 1740. The new American Spelling Book, improved. By John Pierce. Sixth revised edition. Philadelphia, 1808. The Sunday School Spelling Book. Compiled at the request of the Sunday and Adult School Union of Philadelphia. Third edition. Philadelphia, 1819. The Critical Pronouncing Spelling Book. By Hezekiah Burhans. Philadelphia, first edition, 1821. A New Spelling Book. By John Comly. Philadelphia, 1834. Reading Books. The Child's Instructor, consisting of Easy Lessons for Children on subjects which are familiar to them. By a Teacher of Little Children in Philadelphia. 1809. The Reader's Cabinet. In prose and verse. Baltimore, 1809. Lessons in Elocution, &c., for the Improvement of Youth in Reading and Speaking. By William Scott, 1815. The Rhetorical Reader. By Ebenezer Porter. 1848. Introduction to the English Reader. By Lindley Murray. 1818. The English Reader. By Lindley Murray. Philadelphia, 1819. Sequel to the English Reader. By Lindley Murray. 1817. A Pleasing Companion for Little Boys and Girls. By Jesse Torrey, Jr. Twenty-fifth edition. Philadelphia, 1835. The Moral Instructor and Guide to Virtue. By Jesse Torrey. Tenth edition. Philadelphia, 1825. The Moral Instructor and Guide to Virtue. By Jesse Torrey. Tenth Edition. Philadelphia, 1826. A Mental Museum for the Rising Generation, with appendix. By Jesse Torrey. 1829. The American Preceptor, Improved. By Caleb Bingham. Sixty-fourth edition (fourth improved edition). Boston, 1821. The Philadelphia Vocabulary, English and Latin, put into New Method. By James Greenwood. Philadelphia, 1806. Amnriculum Puerile; or, An Help for School Boys in Obtaining a Knowledge of the Latin. Fourth edition. Philadelphia, 1785. The American Practical Lunarian and Seaman's Guide, Illustrated with Plates, &c. By Thomas Arnold. Philadelphia, 1822. The Columbian Orator. By Caleb Bingham. Boston, first edition, 1811. The American Orator. By Joshua P. Slack. 1817. A Short Introduction to English Grammar, with Critical Notes. By Robert Lowth. Printed by R. Aitken, Philadelphia, in 1775. English Grammar, adapted to the different classes of learners, with an appendix of rules and observations. By Lindley Murray. (First American edition. Philadelphia, 1800. Key to the Exercise, adapted to Murray's English Grammar. 1825. Conversations on English Grammar, explaining the principles and rules of the language. By Charles M. Ingersoll. 1835. The Schoolmaster's Assistant: Being a Compendium of Arithmetic, both Practical and Theoretic, in Five Parts, to which is prefixed a Preface Dedicatory

- and an Essay on the Education of Youth, humbly offered to the consideration of parents and guardians. It has also his full-page likeness, two full pages of poetic compliments to the author, besides numerous recommendations, etc., all over the date of 1743. It passed through more than one hundred editions in this country and Europe, and was also for many years the only one used in this country by our fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers. Several editions of it were printed here by R. Aitken, in Philadelphia, before the Revolution, and the twenty-second American edition was printed by Hugh Gaine in New York already in 1784. The American Tutor's Assistant. Philadelphia, 1813. The American Tutor's Assistant, improved. By Zachariah Jess. 1811. Intellectual Arithmetic, upon the inductive method of instruction. By Warren Colburn. Boston, 1826. Arithmetic upon the Inductive Method of Instruction. Being a sequel to Intellectual Arithmetic. By Warren Colburn. 1828. The Teacher's Assistant. By Stephen Pike. Philadelphia, 1852. Rudiments of Arithmetic. By John F. Stoddard. 1867. Practical Arithmetic. By John F. Stoddard. 1868. The American Philosophical Arithmetic. 1856. The Crittenden Commercial Arithmetic and Business Manual. By John Groesbeck. Philadelphia, 1874. Introduction to the National Arithmetic. By B. Greenleaf. 1869. The National Arithmetic on the Inductive System; combining the Analytic and Synthetic Methods. By Benj. Greenleaf. 1869. The Normal Written Arithmetic. By Edward Brooks. 1863. The Normal Higher Arithmetic. By Edward Brooks. 1876. An Introduction Algebra, with Notes and Observations. By John Bonnycastle. Second revised edition. Philadelphia, 1811. A Treatise on the Elements of Algebra. By B. Bridge. 1835. Intellectual Algebra; or, Oral Exercises in Algebra for Common Schools. By David B. Tower. Seventh edition. 1850. Algebra zum gebrauch Hoherer Niderer Schulen. Leipzig. 1761.
- Cassel, Isaac R.**, North Wales. Primer and Table Book, used by exhibitor when a boy. Greek Grammar, 1636. Note Book, bought by Joseph Skeen in 1788.
- Cresson, Walter**, Conshohocken. Cocker's Arithmetic, 1677. The title-page is as follows: Cocker's Arithmetick: Bring a plain and familiar Method, suitable to the meanest Capacity, for the full Understanding of that incomparable Art, as it is now taught by the Ablest School-Masters in City and Country. Composed by Edward Cocker, late Practitioner in the Arts of Writing, Arithmetick, and Engraving: Being that so long since promised to the World. Perused and Published, By John Hawkins, Writing-Master near St. George's, Church in Southwark, by the Author's correct Copy, and commended to the World by many eminent Mathematicians and Writing-Masters in and near London. The Forty-Sixth Edition, carefully Corrected and Amended. By George Fisher, Accompt. Licensed September 3, 1677, Roger L'Estrange. London: Printed for A. Bettsworth and C. Hitch at the Red-Lyon, and F. Osborn at the Golden-Ball in Pater-Noeter Row; S. Birt, at the Bible and Ball in Avenary Lane; and F. Hodges, at the Looking-Glass on London Bridge. Perrin's Instructive Exercises, with Rules of French Syntax. 1793; and Perrin's French Conversation, 1794. Used by the exhibitor's father, John H. Cresson, of Philadelphia (born 1780), when a pupil under the eminent Quaker preacher, Stephen Grellet, in 1796. Lancaster System of Education.
- Cutler, C. D.**, Three Tuns. Ancient United States History.
- Detwiler, Jones**, Blue Bell. New England Primer, 1807. Columbian Orator, by Wythe, 1817. Murray's English Reader, 1821. American Speaker. Comly's Spelling Book. By Hunt. Lot of old Copy Plates, for writing. Two Ciphering Books. Belonged to Amos Roberts, of Whitpain township. Isaac McGlathery, the teacher, signs his name on the last page, March 6, 1792. How to Learn German and English. By Christopher Saur. Germantown, 1751. Description of the Globes and the Orrery. By Harris.
- Detwiler, Mrs. Milton V.**, Oaks. Physiology, 1779. Ainsworth's Dictionary. London, 1773.
- Dotterer, Henry S.**, Philadelphia. Columbian Orator. By Caleb Bingham, A. M. Boston: J. H. A. Frost. 1828. Pennsylvania German Manual. By Rev. A. R. Horne, A. M. Kutztown, 1875. This work contains Pronouncing Exercises, Pennsylvania German Grammar, Pennsylvania German Literature, and a Pennsylvania German Dictionary.
- Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox**, Norristown. School Book, dated June 15, 1790. Contains solution of mathematical problems (Navigation).
- Frank, J. B.**, Jeffersonville. Examination Questions and Answers, by pupils of Indian Creek school, of which exhibitor is teacher. 1884.
- Garsed, Mrs. Robert P.**, Norristown. Bonnycastle's Algebra, 1818. Bonnycastle's Mensuration and Practical Geometry, 1835.
- Godshalk, Charls, D.**, Kulpsville. American Instructor. By Benjamin Franklin and Hall, 1748.
- Grimley, Solomon K.**, Schawenksville. The American Tutor's Assistant. Philadelphia: Joseph Cruikshank. 1810. Owned by John Wireman, 1821.
- Heacock, Annie**, Jenkintown. Guthrie's Geography and Book of Maps, 1820.
- Heller, George K.**, Cheltenham. American Universal Geography and American Gazetteer. By Jedediah Morse, D. D. Boston: Thomas Andrews, 1816. American Tutor's Arithmetic. About 1814. German Reader. By Peter Leibert. Germantown, 1792. Ciphering Book. Done at Fort Washington school-house.
- Heydrick, Daniel**, Kulpsville. Engraved Copy Book, 1766.
- Hobson, F. G.**, Collegeville. Columbian Orator. Middlebury, Vt.: Printed by William Slade, Jr., April, 1816. First Vermont edition.
- Hollinshead, B. M.**, Upper Merion. Atlas, published in 1814.
- Johnson, Mrs.**, Norristown. Old School Books.
- Jones, Jonathan R.**, Conshohocken. Two Ciphering Books, 1799 and 1812; the work of the late Jonathan R. Jones.
- Keller, Charles M.**, Douglass. English Reader, 1826. Three old Spelling Books.
- Keller, F. M.**, Douglass. Juvenile Reader, 1843. Malte-Brun's School Geography, 1836.
- Kriebel, Abraham**, Niantic. Hebrew Grammar, 1752. German Grammar, 1808. English Schoolmaster's Assistant, 1790.
- McNeill, George G.**, Blue Bell. Columbian Orator, 1817. Used by exhibitor's father, Hiram McNeill, Springfield. English Reader, 1818.
- Ramey, Miss S.**, Norristown. History of England, 1804. Columbian Orator, 1813.
- Rex, Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. Ciphering Book. Used by John Rex (born 1800), formerly of Chestnut Hill. Harvey's Mensuration. Used by John Rex.
- Rittenhouse, Samuel**, Fairview Village. Cocker's Arithmetic. Glasgow, 1787.
- Roberts, Lloyd**, Norristown. Practical Arithmetic, 1809.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Comly's Spelling Book, 1814. Child's Geography, very old. Arithmetic, very old. Pike's Arithmetic, very old. Juvenile Astronomy, 1817. Bennett's Arithmetic, 1808. Astronomical Definitions, 1821. Geography and Astronomy, 1808. Algebra, 1822. Schoolmaster's Assistant, 1800. English Reader, 1816. Geometry, 1812. English Grammar, 1815. Surveying. By Roberts Gibson, 1811. Second Class Reader, 1830. Nugent's Dictionary, 1825. School Atlas. Universal Multiplier. Noy's Penmanship, 1830. Atlas, 1828. American Preceptor.
- Schlichter, J. Warren**, Conshohocken. Examination Papers of Conshohocken High School. Spring of 1884. Diploma, framed.
- Scholl, Albert**, Conshohocken. System of Natural Philosophy, 1735.
- Schultz, Amos**, Niantic. Billmeyer's German A, B, C, Book, 1792. Latin Lectures, 1667.
- Shainline, Jonathan**, Abrams. Manuscript Arithmetic of Isaac Eastburn, 1795.
- Shoemaker, Robert**, Shoemakertown. English Syntax, 1785. Geography of the World, 1795.
- Stewart, Mrs. Eliza**, Abington. Scott's Lessons, 1799. Used by the late Ardenus Stewart, and now owned by Emily Stewart. The Young Book-keeper's Assistant, 1798. Used by Jesse B. Dillin.
- Sunnyside School**, Ambler. Schoolmaster's Assistant, 1702. English Syntax, 1783.
- Taggart, Martha**, King-of-Prussia. Six School Papers, work from King-of-Prussia school, 1884.
- Walter, E. H.**, Jarrettown. English Reader. By Lindley Murray 1838.
- Walton, Eber**, Blue Bell. English Reader, 1811. Sequel to the English Reader, 1812.
- Wenberger, Mrs. E. K.**, Collegeville. Introduction to the English Reader. By Lindley Murray. Philadelphia, 1801. Comly's English Grammar, 1819. The Critical Pronouncing Speller. Published, in Phila. in 1834. By Hezekiah Burhaus, counsellor-at-law.
- Wolfe, Dr. Samuel**, Skippack. Murray's English Reader. Philadelphia, 1817. Murray's English Grammar. Albany, N. Y., 1819. Ready Calculator of Interest. Reading, 1816.

CLASS XVIII.

BOOKS, PAPERS, AND MANUSCRIPTS.

"The fullness and variety of this department shows the resources of our

county in books, and the taste of our people for venerable volumes and documents. In Bibles, hymn books, catechisms, and other theological works, the exhibition was especially noteworthy. The descendants of the early Swedish, English, Dutch, German, and Welsh settlers, contributed religious books written in these several languages. The Schwenkfelders sent numerous manuscript sermon and other devotional books, as also the printed writings of the founder of their denomination, and works treating of his life and of the doctrines he promulgated.

The display was further enriched by rare and valuable selections from the extensive library of Abraham H. Casel, the well known antiquary, whose fame as an industrious collector of books extends far beyond the limits of our own county.

A number of specimens of Fraktur-Schrift were exhibited. This is pen and ink work done in bright colors, usually of German text, with ornamental designs. It was employed to decorate books and manuscripts in imitation of the illuminations of the period before the invention of printing. The German teachers in our schools during the colonial times excelled in this art. They inscribed upon the family registers in the Bibles, and the fly-leaves of books, records in German text, adorning them with ornamental flourishes, scrolls, and figures, in designs of circles, hearts, harps, etc., and with pictures of birds, plants, leaves, and flowers. The Geburts- und Tauf-schein (certificate of birth and baptism) afforded a field for the display of their proficiency in this direction. The Vorschrift was executed entirely in this species of penmanship. It was a keepsake, given by the teacher to his pupil. On paper, varying in size according to the circumstances of the case, was written a verse from the Scriptures or from a hymn, conveying a pious precept, the first letter of which was large and highly ornamental, and the same as the initial of the recipient's Christian name. This quotation was followed by the capital and small letters of the alphabet, in German and Latin characters: then the ten numerals, the months of the year, the name and residence of the pupil, the date, and last the name of the donor. This gift served at once as a copy for writing, as a token of regard or reward of merit, and as an injunction to a godly life. It was highly esteemed by the receiver, placed between the leaves of a book, and carefully preserved. Many of these objects of art in the primitive times of our country have been transmitted to the present generation, and are justly regarded by their possessors as valued mementoes.

Albright, Joseph, Shoemakertown. Villa Architecture, 1828.

Amblar, Aaron, Norristown. Old Books.

Amies, Mrs. Mary H., Spring House. Bible. Philadelphia: Jane Aitkin, 1808.

Anders, Joseph, Jr., Worcester. Five Books. 1558, 1566, 1570, 1594, 1635.

Armitage, Jacob, Jenkintown. Bond of Performance, 1747. Three Releases. 1705, 1721, 1724.

Arnold, Edwin C., Norristown. Printed Paper, entitled Strange Bible Facts. Copy of first issue of the *Public Ledger*, Philadelphia, March 25, 1836.

Arnold, Elizabeth, Neshaminy. German History of Christ. Samuel Zollet, 1820.

Ashbridge, Mrs. J., Bryn Mawr. Milton's Poetical Works. London, 1794. Book. London, 1695. Norristown Herald, April 13, 1825. Virginia Gazette and Petersburg Intelligencer, January 8, 1709.

Atkinson, I. S., Norristown. Avrelli Cornelii Celsi De Re Medica. Patavii. 4mo. 1563. Elegantes Praestantium Virorum Satyræ. 1655. 4mo. O. Cornelii Tacti Noticiæ Politicæ. 4mo. 1662. Compendium Manualis Controversarium. 4mo. 1671. Last Will and Testament of Basil Valentine, Monk of St. Bennet. Small 8vo. London, 1671. New York Daily Advertiser, February 25, 1788. Philadelphia Gazette and Universal Daily Advertiser (predecessor of North American and United States Gazette), November 19, 1795. Boston Patriot and Morning Advertiser, May 4, 1816, and September 25, 1816. Contains proceedings of meeting to consider the separation of Maine from Massachusetts. The Ulster County Gazette, January 4, 1800. In mourning for the death of Washington, December 14, 1799, news of which had been received on the 3d. The Post Boy, Chester, Delaware County, Pa., July 27, 1824. The Pennsylvanian, Philadelphia, July 1, 1828; now Philadelphia Inquirer. American Sentinel, Philadelphia, November 26, 1825. Delaware County Republican, May 11, 1838. A brief account of the Bloody Deeds of General Jackson. Illustrated campaign circular of 1824.

Auge, Miss E. M., Norristown. Dissertation on Pure Love, 1738. Poor Richard's Almanac.

Auge, M., Norristown. Biographies of Men of Montgomery County, by the exhibitor. Norristown, 1879.

Bailey, Mr., Norristown. Ulster County Gazette, January 4, 1800.

Baker, Andrew H., Jenkintown. Newspaper, with county statement for 1800.

Batchelder, Meredith, Norristown. Old Books.

Bauer, Andrew, Niantic. Deed, made May 27, 1769. Deed, made July 30, 1782. Bond, dated May 27, 1769. Draught, January 17, 1769. Will, made August 22, 1786. Bond, dated May 27, 1784. Agreements, June 8, 1780, and March 18, 1782. German Account Book, August 19, 1778. Record, made November 24, 1781. Commission, 1786.

Bean, A. J., Worcester. Bible.

Bean, William C., West Point. Catechism 1763.

Beans, E. C., Telford. Luther Testament, 1545. German. Contains a curious warning by Luther. Von dreierlei Leben der Menschen. By Caspar Schwenkfeld. Printed in Germany, in 1533; in good condition; brass clasps, and corners in brass; pages not numbered; about four hundred pages. Bericht von Caspar Schwenkfelds Lehre. 1547. 250 pages; not numbered. Kurtze Lebens Beschreibung des Caspar Schwenkfelds. 1556. First half of book is in poetry; the other part in prose. About 200 pages; not numbered. The place where printed is not given in this and the two foregoing books. Almanac for the year 1759. Title-page missing. Contains moral and Christian instruction; tells Christians to keep away from the courts; teaches how to write German. Poor Rate Tax of Whitpain township for 1803. Inventory of Abraham Wiegner's estate, 1781. Written in German. Certificate of Satisfaction on a mortgage, on a piece of unrulred paper, issued by Geo. M. Potts, Recorder, March 31, 1804. Two Receipts, given by Edmund Physick, for the Proprietaries, to Jacob Reedt, for payments for land in Hatfield township, viz.: For £50 in part for 214 acres, paid at Philadelphia on 26th January, 1770; and for £178 in full for 215 acres and 15 perches, paid at Philadelphia on 17th of February, 1770.

Beck, Mrs. John P., Centre Square. German Bible. Once owned by the Beideman family. Religious Book.

Bell, Mrs. William A., Centre Square. Manuscript Prayer Book. Buried during the Revolutionary war.

Bennett, Daniel R., Jenkintown. Compendium of Modern Travels. Three volumes. 1757. Adventures of Signor Gaudenzio di Lucca, 1799. Naval History of Great Britain, 1758. American Revolution, 1794. Homer's Odyssey, 1771. Notes on the State of Virginia, 1803. The Vicar of Wakefield, 1796. Philosophical Rudiments of Government and Civil Society, 1650.

Bergey, G. R., Skippack. Two German Letters. One from George Steignard to Caspar Seibt, an early settler of Towamencin, dated March 17, 1766. The other dated March 5, 1774. The first letter, which was written from Arneris, im Niederschlesischen, Germany, was received May 31, 1767, being over one year on its way. Two German Letters, from Jeremiah Heydrick to Caspar Seibt, dated February 8, 1770, and March 7, 1774. Book of Sermons, 1670. Norristown Herald and Free Press, 1840.

Bevan, Mrs. Emily, Hartranft. Deed over 200 years old.

Beyer, Jacob, Sr., Norristown. Bible, 1774. Four old Books.

Bickel, Mrs. E. B., Norristown. A Book, 150 years old.

Bisson, Jane, Three Tuns. Receipt Book, 100 years old. Norristown Herald, November 10, 1824.

Blackfan, Mrs. Joseph, Norristown. Treatment of Horses, about 120 years old. Treatise on the Diseases of the Army, 100 years old. Baptismal Certificate, 1810.

Blair, David T., Hatboro. The Running Horse, 1670. Belonged to James Thomas.

Blake, Mrs. John, Jenkintown. Life of David Ferris. Bailey's Dictionary.

Boettcher, C. A., Norristown. Boston Gazette and New York Post, 1770. Colloquies of Erasmus Roterodamus, 1725.

Boorse, John C., Kulpsville. Biblich Namen und Chronik-Buch, 1584. Manuscript Hymn Book, 1727. Act of Poor Laws, &c., 1749. Papers of Overseers of the Poor, 1751 and upwards. Almanacs, from 1752, with few exceptions to date; twelve of them, from 1752 up, printed by Christopher Saur; some with calculations made by David Rittenhouse. Hymn Book. Christoph Saur, 1762. Low Dutch Hymn Book, 1779. Philadelphia Correspondence, (newspaper), 1798 to 1800. Postill. Kurtze Auslegung über die Evangelium. So Man pflegt zulassen an den Sontagen und der Heyligen Fest sampt den Summarien durchs ganze Jahr: Christlich und einfaltig gepredigt unnd beschriben durch Johan Wörner. Gedruckt im Jar nach der Geburt unser Erlösers, 1558. Newspaper, by Christoph Saur, Germantown, dated August 6, 1757, containing

- the numbers and amounts drawn in the Rading-tauner (Reading) Lottery. Schul-Ordnung. By Christoph Dock. The full title of this rare volume is: "Eine Einfältige und gründlich abgefasste Schul-Ordnung darinnen deutlich vorgestellt wird, auf welche Weisse die Kinder nicht nur in denen in schulen gewöhnlichen Lehren bestens angebracht sondern auch in der Lehre der Gottseligkeit wohl unterrichtet werden mögen aus Liebe zu dem menschlichen Geschlecht aufgesetzt durch den wohlverfahren und lang geübten Schulmeister, Christoph Dock. Und durch einige Freunde des gemeinen Besten dem Druck übergeben. Germantown: Gedruckt und zu finden by Christoph Saur, 1770." Brief of Title, from January 26, 1714, to date, for part of 810 acres of land, upon which the present village of Franconiaville is located. One of the deeds says that this tract is situate "near the head waters of Mishameny river," in Philadelphia County. Deed from James Shattick, of Philadelphia, to Lawrence Hendrickson, for one hundred and twenty-three acres of land in Towamensing townships, dated the "one and thirtieth day of the twelfth month called February, in the twelfth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne, Queen of Great Britain," A. D. 1713. This tract was a part of four thousand acres in Towamencin township, granted by deed of lease and release dated the 23d and 24th days of August, 1704, to James Shattick and Edward Lane, of Philadelphia county, by John Phelps, of Bristol, England, and Samuel Taverner and Thomas Pearce, both apothecaries, of Limerick, Ireland. Etliche merkwürdig Punkten betreffend die Verwechselung des Government, gerichtet an die deutsche Einwohner der Provinz Pennsylvania. Gedruckt bey Anton Armbrüster, 1764. Pamphlet, Getreue Warnung gegen die Lockvögel, sammt einer Antwort auf die andere Anrede an die deutsche Freyhalter der Stadt und County von Philadelphia. Durch Germanicus. Behalte was du hast. Gedruckt im Jahr 1764. Pamphlet. Der Lockvögel Warnungsgesang von den Stossvögeln; oder nöthige Beantwortung der sogenannten getreuen Warnung gegen die Lockvögel, etc. Gedruckt am 29ten September, 1764. Eine neue Anrede an die Deutschen in Philadelphia County. Salbe deine Auge mit Augen-Salbe. Gedruckt zur Zeit und im Jahr da einer wider'n andern war. Laws of Pennsylvania, from 1700 to 1812. Five volumes. Leather binding; in excellent condition.
- Bosch, Enos**, Norristown. Doctor's Dictionary, supposed to be at least 200 years old.
- Brunner, Dr. J. D.**, Jarretstown. German Book, 1779.
- Buck, William J.**, Jenkintown. First Newspaper printed in Bucks county, the Farmer's Gazette, at Doylestown, November 11, 1800. Book, containing 258 original drawings, by the exhibitor, of best specimens of Indian Stone Relics, exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition, 1876, belonging to the Government and other collections. A plate containing eighteen lithographic drawings of Indian Relics found on the Pennypack, in Moreland township, made by William J. Buck, and published in the "Collections" of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in 1853. Autograph Letters to the exhibitor; written by Washington Irving, 1855; Samuel Hazard, 1855; Benson J. Lossing, 1856; John F. Watson, 1857; S. Austin Allibone, 1862; John Greenleaf Whittier, 1873. Almanac. Calculations by William Collum, of Montgomery Square. Doylestown, 1817. Original Letter, from Mrs. Stedman to Mrs. Ferguson, Græme Park, September 11, 1777, giving an account of the defeat at Brandywine and the excitement in Philadelphia on hearing the news. Family Bible. In German. Nuremberg, 1745. Belonged to Joseph Afflerbach, grandfather of the exhibitor. Illustrated with numerous woodcuts and copperplate engravings. The Local Historian; a series of sketches relating chiefly to the southeastern section of Montgomery county. Written by exhibitor. Published in the Hatboro Public Spirit, from December 11, 1880, to June 24, 1882; seventy-five numbers. History of Montgomery County, within the Schuylkill Valley. By William J. Buck. Norristown, 1859. History of Bucks County; from its earliest settlement to the close of eighteenth century. By William J. Buck. Printed by John S. Brown, Doylestown, 1855. 118 pages, large 8vo. Rare. The Philadelphia Library paid \$8 several years ago to secure a copy. History of Montgomery County, Pa., from the earliest period of its settlement to the present time, including sketches of all its townships and boroughs. By William J. Buck. Occupies 84 columns, 15 inches in length. Published in Scotts Atlas of Montgomery County, which contains a printed list of 1100 subscribers, chiefly in the county. Price \$12. Early Accounts of Petroleum in the United States. By William J. Buck. Titusville, Pa., 1876. Patent Deed for 125 acres in Upper Salford, dated April 6, 1747, from Governor George Thomas to Jacob Eck. This tract upon which they settled and made the first improvements, was retained in the Eck family for about ninety years. Said Jacob Eck, who lived and died there, was the exhibitor's great-great grandfather. His granddaughter, Mary Eck (daughter of John) was married to Captain Nicholas Buck, of Bucksville, Bucks county, who was exhibitor's grandfather. Three numbers of The Literary Chronicle, dated December, 1840, July 13, and September 7, 1841, published by Oliver I. Search, Hatboro. The first newspaper printed in the lower half of Montgomery county. Very rare. History of Moreland Township, by William J. Buck, published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in 1853. Economy of Agriculture, by David Lloyd, of Horsham. Germantown, 1832. Modern Miscellany, by David Lloyd. 1848.
- Buckman, Thomas**, Jenkintown. Deed, 1754.
- Bult, George T.**, Whitpain. Public Ledger, Vol. I. No. 1. 1836.
- Caley, Cyrus**, Abrams. Mackenzie's Cook Book, 1829. Books. 1791 to 1824.
- Cann, Abraham** Fort Washington. Oath of Allegiance. German Writing, excuted in 1750.
- Cassel, Abraham H.**, Harleysville. Very rare and curious old books in peculiar bindings. Aristotle's Politiques, or Discourses of Government, &c. Translated out of the Greek. With Notes by Plato. In one volume. Folio. London, 1598. A New System of Modern Geography; or, a Historical and Commercial Grammar. By William Guthrie and David Rittenhouse. The Montgomery County Philosopher and Astronomer. Two volumes, large quarto. 1794. A Tutor to Astronomy and Geography, or an easy and speedy way to know the use of both the Globes, Celestial and Terrestrial. By Joseph Moxon. 3d edition, 4to., finely illustrated with steel plates. London, 1674. With autograph of Dr. George de Benneville. Names which the Lenni Lenape or Delaware Indians gave to Rivers, Streams and Localities within the State of Pennsylvania, &c., with their significations. By John Heckewelder. The One Line Psalmist, embracing Day and Beal's New Musical Notation and Sight-singing Method, by which classes, schools, and choirs, in a few lessons, become better readers of music than common singers do in the old way during life, etc. By H. W. Day, of the Boston Phonographic Musical Institution. The Art of Singing. In three parts, to wit: 1. The Musical Primer; 2. The Christian Harmony; 3. The Musical Magazine. By Andrew Law. Fourth edition. Boston, 1803. It contains the Rules of Psalmody, newly revised and improved, with a number of practical lessons and tunes, on a new plan of printing music without a staff. Memoirs of David Rittenhouse. By William Barton. 1813. Logic; or, the Right Use of Reason in the Enquiry after Truth. With a variety of rules to guard against error in the affairs of religion and human life, as well as in the sciences. By Isaac Watts. Seventh edition, corrected. 1740. Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania to the Inhabitants of the British Colonies. (By John Dickinson.) 3d edition. Philadelphia: Printed by William Bradford, at the London Coffee-house. 1769. Stammbaum der Familie des Dr. Martin Luthers zur dritten secularfeier seines Todestages, den 18th February, 1846. With a large engraved family tree. A very large folio, with the translator's dedication to King James, and a lengthy dissertation to the reader, besides other matter never seen in a Bible. King James English Bible. Printed at London, by Robert Barker, 1611. The original first edition. It was padlocked by a brass chain to the altar of the Parish Church of South Cowdon, England. Pre-Lutheran German Bible, the oldest known to exist, printed line by line, it is said, from wooden blocks, in 1470-1473. Proceedings of the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati. (George Washington being its President.) Philadelphia. 1785. A Collection of rare Tracts, dating from 1652 to 1690. Quarto. Bound in *Human Skin*. Contemplations Moral and Divine. By the great Sir Matthew Hale, late Chief Justice of the King's Bench. 1685. Unheard of Curiosities, concerning the Talismanical Sculpture of the Persians; The Horoscope of the Patriarchs, and the Reading of the Stars. By James Gaffarel. 1650.

Alchymie, or an Exposition upon Sir George Ripley's Hermetico-Poetical Works. Containing the plainest and most excellent discoveries of the most hidden Secrets of the Ancient Philosophers that were ever yet published. 1678.

A very curious collection of eleven separately printed Tracts or Treatises on Chymistry, and on the Mechanical Origin or Production of Electricity, and also of Magnetism. By Hon. Robert Boyle, of the Royal Society, London and Oxford. 1675. The above are now all bound together in one volume. They are very curious, and among the earliest known treatises on these subjects.

An Astrological Judgment of Diseases, &c. By Nicholas Culpepper. London, 1671. (Was the property of C. DeWitt.)

Der Frommenn Lotterie, oder Geistliches Schatz-Kästlein; printed by Christopher Saur, Germantown, in 1744. Mr. Cassel furnishes the following account of this peculiar and now rare publication:

"It consisted of 381 tickets, printed on stiff, white pasteboard, $2\frac{1}{4} \times 4$ inches in size, and numbered like lottery tickets, each containing a poetic gem composed by the celebrated Gerhard Tersteegen, and accompanied by a verse or passage from the Scriptures. These tickets were enclosed in neat cases, some made of leather and others of fancy wood nicely dove-tailed. Mine is leather bound. The good people in olden times enjoyed themselves, generally on Sunday afternoons, by drawing prizes out of this sacred or spiritual treasury, and often when they felt gloomy or despondent they would resort to it in hope of drawing some promise or consolation to cheer their drooping spirits."

Kurtze Lebens-Beschreibung des hoch von Gott begnadeten und gelehrten Mannes Caspar Schwenckfelds. Nebst dessen Abschied, etc. Gedruckt im Jahr, 1697. With a beautiful steel engraved likeness of Schwenckfeld. Exceedingly rare; the exhibitor knows of but one copy besides his.

A Choice Selection of Hymns for the Glory of Christ. Mathetechy, (Norriton Square). Published by Abraham Krupp, 1814. 18mo. It has no imprint, but is known to have been printed by David Sower, Sr., Norritown.

The Norritown New and much Improved Musical Teacher, or Repository of Sacred Harmony: Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs, containing many New Tunes, never before published. For the use of Schools and Christian Devotion. On a New System. By a Professor of Music. (Abraham Krupp.) Printed by David Sower, Jr., Norritown, Pa., 1832. Very scarce.

Das Kleine Davidische Psalterspiel. Chestnut Hill. S. Saur, 1791. Called *kleine* in contradistinction to a very large Davidische Psalterspiel, which the Brethren used in England and for a while in America, of which the *kleine* is an abridgment. It passed through at least fifteen editions, in the course of which new hymns, mostly composed by the Brethren, have been added. The first edition was printed by Christopher Saur, Germantown, in 1744, and the last by G. Mentz, Philadelphia, in 1830. It is not scarce. It is exhibited to prove that there was a printing office at Chestnut Hill, many persons living there now being hardly willing to credit the statement. The exhibitor also shows an almanac and a newspaper printed there, in further proof. He has, besides, many other Chestnut Hill imprints in his collection. Samuel Saur, the son of Christopher Saur, commenced printing at Chestnut Hill about 1790; from there he moved to Philadelphia, and from there to Baltimore, where he died. What may be more surprising, is the fact that there was a printing establishment at Chestnut Hill long before Samuel Saur's. This was conducted by N. Hasselbach, who afterwards moved to Philadelphia, and there followed printing many years. An almanac published by Hasselbach in 1763 is shown by the exhibitor.

Das Kleine Davidische Psalterspiel. Germantown. C. Saur, 1777. Exhibited on account of its extraordinary binding, being covered, almost all over, with brass mountings. So well is it protected, that now, after being used more than a century, it is still in quite good condition.

Das Neue Testament. (Psalter und Sirach.) 1740. Profusely protected with brass mountings, but of a construction different from the preceding volume.

The Psalms of David in French Meter and Music. 1707. Curiously bound.

Beicht und Communion Buch. By J. P. Freseni. Printed 1748. Exhibited for its odd form.

Zionitischer Weyrauchs Hügel. Germantown. Christoph Saur, 1739.

This book contains a preface written at Ephrata, Pa., 14th of

Fourth-month, 1739, which, with the title-page, covers fourteen pages; seven hundred and ninety-two pages of hymns, and fourteen pages of index. It is dedicated "To all solitary Turtle Doves, cooing in the wilderness as a spiritual harp—playing in the many times of divine visitation." There are a number of facts in the bibliographical history of the Weyrauchs Hügel, any one of which would be enough to make it a remarkable publication. It was the first book printed in German type in America. It was the first book from the justly celebrated and prolific Colonial press of Christopher Saur, of Germantown. . . . The Weyrauchs Hügel is the largest and most important collection of hymns of the Ephrata cloister. . . . As the edition was small, and the book was in common use for devotional purposes, it has become exceedingly scarce, nearly all of the few known copies being imperfect.—SAMUEL W. PENNYPACKER'S *Historical and Biographical Sketches*, Philadelphia, 1883.

ALMANACS.

[Mr. Cassel's display, it should be understood, is merely representative of the exceedingly large collection in his library. He selected for exhibition specimens of special periods, of noteworthy classes, and of local importance. This remark applies to his contribution of books, periodicals, broadsides, and almanacs, as well as of manuscripts, vorschriften, rare old letters, and documents. Of almanacs, at one time, he had at least one thousand copies, and at present he retains about four hundred; and of periodicals and newspapers he had over seven thousand specimens from nearly all parts of the world.]

Haushaltungs und Haus-Artzney Kalender für das Jahr. 1714.

Three Christopher Saur's Calendars. 1740, 1746 and 1752. Samples from an extensive collection in possession of the exhibitor of this noted publication.

Calendar. Printed by N. Hasselbach, Tschesnut (i. e., Chestnut) Hill. 1764.

Calendar for 1772. Ephrata.

Calendar for 1774. Philadelphia: Henrich Miller.

Calendar for the year 1779. Lancaster: Francis Bailey.

Calendar for the year 1781. Philadelphia: Johann Duulap.

Kalender für 1782. Lancaster: Theophilus Cossart.

Calendar for 1783. Philadelphia: Joseph Crukschank.

Calendar for 1784. Philadelphia: Carl Cist.

Calendar for 1785. By Leibert & Billmeyer.

Calendar for 1786. Philadelphia: Malchior Steiner.

Calendar for 1788. Lancaster: Stierner, Albrecht & Lahn.

Calendar for 1791. Chestnut Hill: Samuel Saur.

Calendar for 1798. By H. Kammerer and Com.

Calendar for 1798. Reading: Gottlob Jungman & Com.

Calendar for 1799. York, Pa.: Solomon Mayer.

Calendar for 1800. Philadelphia: Henrich Schweitzer.

Shanghai Almanac for 1852, and Commercial Guide. Printed at the "Herald" office, Shanghai, China. Large; bound; interesting.

A Chinese Almanac in the Chinese characters, for 1852-53. Printed at Singpo, on the native bamboo paper, with folding map, &c. A curiosity.

Times Telescope for 1818; or a Complete Guide to the Almanack. Very large and complete, 328 pp.; bound; emblematic frontispiece. Published annually.

Aitken's American Register and Complete Annual Account Book and Calendar for the Pocket or Desk, for the year 1773. Philadelphia: Joseph Crukschank.

PERIODICALS.

The Gentleman's Magazine for June, 1749. London.

The Columbian Magazine, or Monthly Miscellany, September, 1786. Philadelphia.

The Universal Asylum and Columbian Magazine, March, 1790. Philadelphia.

The American Museum, or Repository of Ancient and Modern Fugitive Pieces, &c., April, 1787, and June, 1788. Philadelphia.

The Congressional Register, or the History and Proceedings, &c., of the House of Representatives. Philadelphia, 1790.

The Philadelphia Monthly Magazine, or Universal Repository of Knowledge and Entertainment, for January, 1798. Philadelphia: Thomas Condie.

Porcupine's Political Censor for December, 1796, by Wm. Cobbett Philadelphia.

The Rush-Light, by Peter Porcupine (William Cobbett), for March, 1800. Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia Monthly Magazine for September, 1798. Philadelphia.

The Weekly Magazine, &c., for June 1st, 1799. Philadelphia.

The New York Missionary Magazine and Repository of Religious Intelligence, September, 1802.

The Panoplist and Missionary Magazine United, October, 1809. Boston and New York.

Something. Edited by Nemo Nobody, Esq., February 24, 1810. Boston.

The Port Folio. A Monthly Magazine conducted by Oliver Old-school. October, 1810. Philadelphia.

The Friend of Peace, by Philo Pacificus (Elias Boudinot), for 1816. Philadelphia.

Sunday School Repository for April, 1818. First number of second volume. Philadelphia.

The Casket, or Flowers of Literature, Wit and Sentiment. No. 1, for January, 1826, by Atkinson. Philadelphia.

The Quaker, being a series of sermons by members of the Society. August, 1827. Philadelphia.

Watchman of the Night and Millennial Morning, &c., &c. No. 1, Vol. 1. 1833.

The Lady's Magazine and Repository of Entertaining Knowledge. Vol. 1, for 1792. Philadelphia. (The numbers for one year, bound.) This establishes the fact that ninety-four years ago a magazine for ladies was issued in this State.

NEWSPAPERS.

The New England Courant for February 11, 1723. Reproduced from first paper printed by Franklin.

Pennsylvania Gazette. Supplement, July 7, 1755. (Important war news.) Philadelphia.

Dunlap's Pennsylvania Packet, or the General Advertiser, July 8, 1776. Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania Gazette, December 24, 1799. (Washington's death announced.) Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania Gazette, January 8, 1800. (Washington's Eulogy.) Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia Gazette and Universal Daily Advertiser, October 14th, 1796.

Aurora and General Advertiser, January 30, 1797. Philadelphia.

Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser, July 5, 1798. Philadelphia.

Freeman's Journal and Columbian Chronicle, October 24, 1809. Philadelphia.

Poulson's American Daily Advertiser, November 27, 1819. Vol. 48. No. 13,418.

Philadelphia Repository and Weekly Register, March 12, 1803. Spp., 4to.

Harrisburg Chronicle, June 20, 1825. Harrisburg, Pa.

Pennsylvania Intelligencer, June 17, 1825. Harrisburg, Pa.

The Norristown Gazette. "Printed by David Sower, nearly opposite the court-house. Volume I, No. 21. Friday, November 1, 1799." The first newspaper published in Norristown, or in the county. As it did not meet with sufficient patronage, on account of being neutral, it was suspended after the first year. After a while it was started again, as an avowed Whig paper, under the title of the Norristown Herald, when it met with sufficient support to make it quite lucrative.

Norristown Herald and Weekly Advertiser, by David Sower, September 16, 1808.

Norristown Herald and Weekly Advertiser, enlarged, January 21, 1829.

Weekly Register. Printed by James Winnard. Norristown. 1811.

Public Ledger. Philadelphia, March 25, 1836. (Original first number.)

Public Ledger. Philadelphia, March 25, 1836. Fac-simile reproduction.

The Daily Citizen, Vicksburg, Miss., July 2, 1863. Edited by its Confederate publishers, and issued by the Union troops. A historical curiosity. Mr. Cassel furnishes the following note:

"It is well known that during the war paper became so exceedingly scarce in the South that most of the newspapers had to suspend for want of it, and that the few journals that were continued were reduced to one-fourth or even one-eighth their former size. Wrapping paper, and even wall-paper, was used until the supply was exhausted. But as it was an absolute necessity to keep up at least

one paper to buoy up their sinking cause by false and fabricated reports of their 'brilliant successes,' they resorted as a last extremity to soaking the paper loose from the walls of their houses, to keep up a limited edition of one page of the above-named paper, which before had had eight large pages. When General Grant took Vicksburg he found one page set up, and a small parcel of loosened wall-paper, ready to go to press. Removing several lines, he inserted the note given below, and ordered a few copies to be struck off, thinking they would be valuable as a curiosity. My copy was sent me through the kindness of Dr. J. N. Jacobs, who was then a surgeon under Gen. Grant, in the hospital at Vicksburg."

NOTE.

July 4th, 1863.

"Two days bring about great changes. The banner of the Union floats over Vicksburg. Gen. Grant has 'caught the rabbit'; he has dined in Vicksburg, and he did bring his dinner with him. The 'Citizen' lives to see it. For the last time it appears on wall-paper. No more will it eulogize the luxury of mule meat and fricasseed kitten—urge Southern warriors to such diet nevermore. This is the last wall-paper edition, and is, excepting this note, from the types as we found them. It will be valuable hereafter as a curiosity."

Cherokee Phoenix and Indians' Advocate. New Echota, June 17, 1829. Edited by the eminent patriot and philanthropist, Elias Boudinot, who was born in Philadelphia in 1740. This was the first paper printed in the interest of the Indians, and is partly in their own language.

Herald of Gospel Liberty. By Elias Smith, September 1, 1808. Claimed to be the first religious newspaper published in the world. (Reproduced.) It is still continued, and is claimed by its present publishers to be the first religious newspaper in the world. Mr. Smith, the original proprietor, in his preface or introduction to the first number, says: "A religious news-paper is almost a new thing under the sun. I know not but this is the first ever published to the world." To this the reproducer adds as a note: "This was the first religious newspaper in the world." A bound volume of it was exhibited at the Centennial in Philadelphia in 1876, in the Olden Time Cabin or New England Kitchen, and was there claimed to be the first in the world, and supposed to be the only copy of the first volume. Mr. Cassel, however, has Volumes I, II, III, and IV, bound complete, but contends that it is not the first religious newspaper, as he has in his collection some much older.

The Anglo-Saxon, &c. New York, November 6, 1847.

Komstock's Phonetic Teligraf, &c. Philadelphia, January, 1849.

GERMAN NEWSPAPERS.

Christoph Saur's Pennsylvanische Geschichte Schreiber, April 16, 1744. First German paper in America.

Christoph Saur's Pennsylvanische Berichte, March 1, 1764. Title changed and enlarged.

Christoph Saur's Die Germantowner Zeitung, &c., December 5, 1763. Title again changed and enlarged.

Die Germantowner Zeitung, by Michael Billmeyer, February 5, 1788; semi-monthly.

Die Germantowner Zeitung, by Michael Billmeyer, September 11, 1792; weekly.

Die Chesnuthiller Wochenschrift, by Samuel Saur, January 7, 1794 weekly.

Das Philadelphier Wochenblatt, by Samuel Saur, August 26, 1794; weekly.

Der Wöchentliche Philadelphischer Staatsbote, by Henry Miller, June 23, 1766.

Der Wöchentliche Pennsylvanische Staatsbote, by Henry Miller, August 23, 1768.

Heinrich Miller's Pennsylvanischer Staatsbote, July 9, 1776; semi-weekly.

Philadelphisches Staatsregister, October 25, 1780, by Steiner & Cist; weekly.

Gemeinnütziger Philadelphische Correspondenz, July 16, 1782, by Melchior Steiner.

Der Americanische Staatsbote, &c., Lancaster, by Johan Albrecht, May 23, 1804.

Der Freiens Bothe, &c., Allentown, May 27, 1813, by Joseph Ehrenfried.

Readinger Adler, by Johann Ritter, February 3, 1818. Volume 22d.

Der Redliche Registrator, &c., Chambersburg, May 31, 1825.

Montgomery Adler, Pottstaun, Montgomery county, August 15, 1827.

Der Bauern Freund, Sumnytaun, Montgomery county, October 22, 1828, by E. Benner.

Der Evangelische Botschafter, &c., by Heinrich Bertolet, July 1, 1836, Skippackville. Heinrich Bertolet was a preacher among the Mennonites, and that this was the first attempt ever made by them to publish a religious paper. It met with so little favor and so much opposition that it was soon abandoned. It was a three-column, sixteen-page large quarto, intended to be monthly, at one dollar per year.

Fr yheits W chter, by Arnold Puwelle, Skippackville, March 28, 1838.

Wahrheits Freund, &c., Zieglersville, Montgomery county, September 1, 1858.

MISCELLANEOUS LITERARY CURIOSITIES—PRINTED.

Goshenhoppen Church Document. Reproduced from the original of 1737.

Reise Pass, furnished by the Grosherzogthum Baden. A German emigrant's passport and protection.

Japanese Newspaper. Title in English, "Daily Budget of Reliable News." Printed at Yeddo, Japan, August 6, 1872. Mr. Cassel has a very extensive collection of Chinese and Japanese newspapers in their native and English languages, as well as of nearly all other parts of the world, besides specimens of nearly all the languages and dialects of the Indians.

Sheet Music of Continental Times. Titles, "Citizen Soldiers," "Rosy Hannah," and "Variety."

Single and Double-Hand Alphabet for the Deaf and Dumb, with its history and instructions.

A Poetic Medley. Inscribed to Esquire Lilliput, Professor of Scur-rility. A broadside, with a large engraving about 18x24 inches, having reference to an election held in the "Old Court," or "Great Towne House," in Philadelphia, about 1765. The main parts of the poetry are to the tune of "Yankee Doodle." It is extremely rare; but two copies are known to exist. (See Watson's Annals of the Old Time, pages 350 and 351.)

The Old Time News. A large illustrated broadside, or chart, of statistics and dates of important events since 1800—accidents, fires, lives lost by disasters on sea and land, inventions, fastest trotters in the world, sporting events, army commanders from the time of Washington to Sherman, etc. Published and copyrighted by John Wilcox, Chicago, Ill., 1879.

Broadside. Containing fac-simile reproduction of the Boston News Letter, for the week from Monday, April 17, to Monday, April 24, 1704, the first newspaper printed in America; also engravings of the first steam railroad passenger train in America, first steamboat in America, first steam locomotive in the world, portrait of Robert Toombs (a benefactor and eccentric character), etc., etc.

A collection of Raised Letter Lesson Papers for the Blind.

The hand Nomascope of the Precise Letter Namers.

Captain's Commission, from Governor McKean to David C. Kulp, 1806. With the Governor's autograph.

Tavern Keeper's License, from Governor McKean to Samuel Harley, 1808. With the Governor's autograph.

Justice of the Peace Commission, from Governor Snyder to Abraham Gerhardt, 1813. With autograph.

Summons to the General Assembly, from Governor Shulze to Benjamin Reiff, 1829. With autograph.

Justice of the Peace Commission, from Governor Wolf to Benjamin Reiff, 1831. With Governor's autograph.

Warrant of James Hamilton, of the Land Office, issued by authority of the Proprietors, to Nicholas Scull, Surveyor General, to survey to Jacob Beseker one hundred acres "adjoining John Christopher Keiser in Marlbro' Township," dated April 15, 1752; with autograph of Nich. Scull, appended to his request to David Shultz, surveyor, to make a resurvey of the tract, the original return having been accidentally lost.

Sheriff's Summons of Certain Persons to Attend Court, 1820.

Broadside of Important News. Size, 13x8 inches. Dated Philadelphia, February 8, 1781, containing news received by express that morning from South Carolina, dated "Camp on the Pee Dee, Jan. 24, 1781," from General Nathaniel Greene to the President of Congress, of the defeat of Colonel Tarleton by General Morgan.

Die Sieben Regeln der Weisheit. A large Fraktur Schrift. 1802. Measures 19x23½ inches.

Certificate of Oath of Allegiance of Jacob Frey, on a printed blank on thick paper, 6¼x4½ inches, in the following words:

Philada County

I DO hereby certify, That

Jacob Frey, of townensing township

former

Hath voluntarily taken and subscribed the OATH of Allegiance and Fidelity, as directed by an ACT of General Assembly of Pennsylvania, passed the 5th day of December, A. D. 1778. Witness my hand and seal, the 26th day of March, A. D. 1779.



AND^w KNOX, Com^s

No 73

Printed by J. Dunlap.

Large Fraktur-Schrift, made by Hupert Cassel for Henry Cassel, 1764.

Das G ldene A, B, C. A remarkable Fraktur-Schrift, containing a hymn composed by Christopher Dock, and ornamental pen-and-ink work of different colors executed by him, July 18, 1768. The hymn is an eight-line alphabetical acrostic, the first letter of each stanza being a letter of the alphabet. The first two stanzas are:

An Gottes Gnad und milden Segen
Ist Alles ganz und gar gelegen,
Und ohne H mmels-H lf und Gunst
Ist aller menschen Thun umsunst;
Drum sey der Gottesfurcht ergeben
Und halt an ihr dein ganzes Leben.
Weil sie Verstand und Weisheit bringt
Und macht dasz Alles wohl gelingt.

Bedenke wohl in allen Sachen
Die du hast auf der Welt zu machen
Das Gott der Alles h rt und sieht;
Auch siehet was an dir geschieht
Und dasz du must vom Thun und Leben
Am j ngsten Tage Rechnung geben;
Deswegen nimm bey Tag und Nacht
Doch dien Gewissen wohl in Acht.

Fraktur-Schrift. By Christopher Dock. Contains a hymn, composed by him, which is included in the Mennonite hymn book, published in Lancaster in 1804. The first and last stanzas of the hymn, which is an alphabetical acrostic, are:

Allein auf Gott setz dein Vertrauen,
Auf Menschen H lf sollst du nicht bau'n.
Gott ist allein: der Glauben h lt
Sonst find'st du Wenig in der Welt.

Zuletzt, sey redlich, fromm und treu,
Das dich dein Thun niemals gerue;
Denn vor gethan und nach bedacht
Hat manchen in gross Leid gebracht.

MISCELLANEOUS MANUSCRIPTS.

Indenture between Henry Frey and John Jannett, October 2, 1692, about a sale of one hundred acres of land, made during the reign of William and Mary. Remarkable handwriting; in good preservation, yet of venerable appearance.

Contract for sale of land between Henry Frey and Gerhard Levering, dated April 30, 1700; with the autographs of Johannes Kelpius and Claus Rittinghuis (Nicholas Rittenhouse) as witnesses.

Marriage Certificate of Henry Frey and Catharine Levering, drawn in English and German by Francis Daniel Pastorius, as follows:

Whereas, Henry Frey, of Altheim, in the province of Alsace in high Germany, now Inhabitant of Germantown, in the County of Philadelphia, Bachelor; and Anna Catharina Levering, of Mühlheim, in the County of Bruck, likewise in high Germany, young woman, now of the said Township; after the consultation with the respective Parents have produced a sufficient Testification of their Clearness of all other engagements under the hand of several credible persons unto one of the Justices of the peace in the Bailiwick of Germantown as also published & affixed their Intention of marriage on the meeting house of the said Town the 24 day the first month past.

This present Certificate witnesseth that the said Henry Frey & Anna Catharina Levering have this day solemnized such their marriage by taking an other as husband and wife according to the Law of this Country, before and in the presence of us, whose names are hereunder written at Germantown the 26 day of the 2^d month Anno Domini 1692.

Demnach Heinrich Frey gebürtig von Altheim aus dem Elsaß in Hoch Teutschland, anjetzo Einwohner zu Germantown in der graffschafft Philadelphia: Jung gesell; und Anna Catharina Levering von Mühlheim aus der graffschafft Bruck, ebenfalls in Hoch Teutschland, jungfrau, anjetzo von ged^r Germantownschep; auff geschעהner Berathschlagung u. Consent dero respectiven Eltern, eine genugsame Attestation ihrer Klarigkeit von allem underseitigen Versprechen unter der hand verschiedener glaubwürdiger Personen vor einem Justice of the peace im Germantownischem Gebeyts vorgelegt als auch ihr Vorhaben Einander zu Ehelichen an dem Versamlungs Haus dieses Orts d 24 tag jüngst verwichenen ersten Monats publicirten und angeschlagen haben.

Dess bezeugt gegenwärtiger Heurats Brieff, das ged^r Heinrich Frey u Anna Catharina Levering heut dato solch ihre Ehe Vollzuge und Einander vor Mann u. Weib genommen haben vermög diessländischen Gesetzes, in der Gegenwärtigkeit von uns, deren Nahmen eigenhändig unterzeichnet sind. Actum in Germantown d. 26 tag des 2^{ten} monats (Aprilis): Anno Domini 1692.

FRANCIS DANIEL PASTORIUS
Justice of the Peace

dies ist HEIN H RICH FREYS marck
dies ist ANNA X CATHRINA LEVERINGS marck
Anjetzo ANNA CATHRINA FREYS.

dies X ist WIGART LEVERINGS marck
dies ist X GERHART LEVERINGS marck
Hans Peter Umstatt
Arnold Cassell
H Heinrich Kesselberg marck
Heivert Papen
Jan Doeden
Andris Souplis
Willem Rittingheysen
Henrick Zellen
Jacob Isacks
Heinrich Bucholtz
Isaac Dilbeek
Clas Tamsen
dies ist U Hanes Millans marck
dies ist Johannes H Umstets marck
dies ist H Herman Trapmanns marck
dies ist MAGDA X LENA LEVERINGS marck
Emenka Pastorius
S Hendreches
Harriet Peters
Marria Moy
Catrin Tamsen
dies ist M Markje Sellen marck
Maria Bucholtz
dies ist A Annecke Souplis marck
dies ist Ma X ritje Bloemerts marck
Elizabeth Cassells
Sara Hendercks
dies ist X Mario Bones marck
dies ist He X ligens Gerrits marck
dies E ist Elizabeth Rüttinhausen marck

Articles of Agreement between Henry Frey and his family, October 12, 1732. Henry Frey came to America as an adventurer before

William Penn, probably as early as 1675. He was a bachelor until Wigart Levering's family arrived. Then he applied for their daughter Cathrina, as she was probably the only young woman then in the bailiwick of Germantown; and although she was of a marriageable age, the odds of their ages were so exceeding great that it was feared objections might be filed against it. Therefore, their intention was publicly made known; it was also published in their meeting, and affixed on the meeting-house of the said town on the 24th of the first month past. And then, as no objections were filed against it, it was consummated, as the certificate says, on the 26th day of the 2d month March 1692. Then as Frey was so old already before he married, they had several minors yet when he was so old and infirm that he was obliged to retire from all the active cares of life. Consequently this agreement was made to one of his older sons (Jacob), consigning all his real estate and personal property to him on very peculiar conditions concerning the support of themselves and his minor children; providing also for their outsets, etc.

Warrant of the Surveyor General to Thomas Fairman, for 200 acres in the present Towamencin township. 1712.

Return of Survey, by David Powell, dated Philadelphia, the 26th of the first month, March, 1713, of 200 acres of land under warrant of 20th of Eighth-month, 1712, in the county of Philadelphia. This land was located on Towamencin creek, in Towamencin township, then called Bristol township, and became the homestead of the Fry family.

Warrant of Richard Hill, James Logan and Robert Assheton, Commissioners of Property, dated at Philadelphia the 30th day of the first month, A. D. 1721, directed to Jacoy Taylor, Surveyor General, to survey unto Samuel Powel 546 acres of land "that has not been heretofore survey'd nor appropriated nor is seated by the Indians." This land was located within the limits of the present county of Montgomery. This instrument came into the possession of the exhibitor through the Frey family, who owned part of the land.

Articles of Agreement, dated July 4, 1725, between Derrick Ransbery and Hupert Cassel, relative to a purchase of 150 acres of land in Van Bebber's township. This land was located about one mile southeast of the present Skipackville. Hupert Cassel was great-grandfather of the exhibitor.

Specification of the length of time in days that each taxable of Lower Salford township—their names being given—was required to maintain a pauper, about 1760. The number of days apportioned was governed by the means of the taxable.

Curious Bond of Indemnity to the Overseers of the Poor of Lower Salford for the keeping of a pauper of Bucks county. 1766.

Certificate of the appointment of John Beiff and Henry Cassel as Overseers of the Poor. 1770.

Certificate of the appointment of Dielman Ziegler and William Yerkes as Overseers of the Poor. 1772.

Certificate of the appointment and confirmation of Christian Stauffer and Godshall Godshalls as Overseers of the Poor. 1775.

Auditors' Certificate to the accounts of the Overseers of the Poor of Lower Salford, March 25, 1774, as follows:

March 25th, 1774.

It appears by settling the Accompts, in presents of three Reputable Freeholders, of Lower Salford Township, who subscribed their Names, in the Book, that the Dispurement made for the year past was Two Shillings. So remain the Sum in Bank, £30. 7. 9. Which We Certify.

FREDERICK DIECKENSCHIEDT.
MICHEL ZIGLER.

Fence Viewer's Report. The office of Fence Viewer is unknown to the present generation. In former times officers were elected, or appointed by the court, to investigate disputes concerning line fences and to make award, their judgment being final. The report exhibited reads:

We the Subscribers appointed by Fence Viewers in and for the County of Montgomery, having this day Viewed the Partition Fence in dispute Between Jacob Shellenberger and Martin Hocker, jun^r; do adjudge and order that the said Martin Hocker jun^r shall make a good and Lawful Fence on the Line in Ten days from this Date, and to begin the same at the Lane, thence on the Line all the way to a stake drove in the ground for a Division, and pay Three Dollars to the Viewers. And we Likewise order that Jacob Shellenberger pay to Martin Hocker one Dollar & Fifty cents for three panels of Fence

heretofore made by said Hocker & his Predecessors. Given from under Hands, this first day of October Anno Domini 1814.

MELCHIOR SCHULTZ,
MORDECAI DAVIES,
ISAAC MORRIS.

Quit Rent Receipts of Henry Ruth and Christian Stauffer, 1748 and 1756.

Quit Rent Receipts of Henry Frey, for 200 acres, 1724 and 1735. Both written on one sheet of paper, $6\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches—a sample of old time economy. They are as follows:

Philad^a 14th 1^{mo} 1624-5

Recd of Henry Fry Two and thirty Shillings money of Penslv^a in lieu of four and Twenty Shillings sterling in full for twelve years quit rent due on 200 acres of Land at Skepeck to the first Inst

¶ JAMES STEEL, Rec^r

Philad^a 14th 3^{mo} 1735

Recd of Henry fry (by his son Jacob) thirty Shillings money of Penslv^a in lieu of twenty Shillings sterling in full for ten years quit rent due on the above 200 acres of Land to the first day of the first month last past.

¶ JAMES STEEL, Rec^r Gen^l

Quit Rent Receipt of Christian Stauffer, March 1, 1772, Militia Notice to Yelles Cassel, the exhibitor's father, November 24, 1807.

Militia Notice to Yelles Cassel for the American war, August 30 1814.

Receipt for Direct (or Militia) Tax of Yelles Cassel, 1815. Subscription Paper to Raise Funds for the Support of a Schwenkfelder School, 1764. Neatly written in German, as follows:

Ein Plan zu Unterhaltung eines Schul-Wesens bey uns
Schwenkfeldern verfasst den 1. Mertz, 1764.

Nehmlich unten genannte legen einen Fund zusammen zu bezahlung eines Schul-Meisters auf folgende Weise: Besagte genannte lehnen eine Summa an die zuernennende Trustees des Schul-Hauses, dass die jährliche Intressen von 5 Pro cento zum Genuss der Schule solten verwandt werden, auf eine Termin von 16 Jahren, in Absicht ob biss dahin andere, die in zwischen am zeitlichen geeignet werden, und gleichfals die Wichtigkeit der Sache erkennen, ihren Platz ersetzen würden: Solte aber gleichwol dieses nicht geschehen, auf dieselbige Zeith, so sollen ietzige Creditores das Ihre nicht hinweg ziehen, biss sich dergleichen Willigkeit und Vermögenheit einfinde, weil der Fund auf keine weise aufgehoben werden soll, ohne wenn nach unserm Bekänntnis eine Unrichtigkeit drauss entstünde; Uebrigens aber soll so viel als möglich die Billigkeit Richter zwischen uns in dieser Sache bleiben, und solche Unterstützer des Funds die oder deren Erben verarmen solten, treulich bedacht und abgelöset werden, wo nicht anders dennoch durch unterschriebene.

George Kriebel	£30	George Shultz	50
George Anders	5	Christoph Krause	40
Christoph Neuman	20	George Shultz	30
David Neuman	25	Johannes Jäckel	50
Henrich Schneider	20	Christoph Jäckel	50
Barbara Jackelin	40	Christoph Schultz	50
Andreas Warmer	20	Georg Kriebel	30
Abraham Jäckel	20	Christoph Kriebel	30
Abranam Kribel	30	Christoph Hoffman	20
Balthaser Krauss	10	Caspar Kriebel	50
Melchior Kriebel	20	H. Christoph Hübner	50
Gregorius Schultz	20	Caspar Seibt	30
David Shultz	10	George Anders	20
Melchior Shultz	50		

TRANSLATION.

The undersigned unite in establishing a fund for the maintenance of a school-master in the following manner: The under-written contributors lend to the to be appointed Trustees of a school-house, a sum, of which the annual interest at five per cent. is to be applied to the use of a school for the term of sixteen years, in the anticipation that at the expiration of this time others who may in the meantime be blessed in temporal affairs, and who shall discern the importance of this matter, will take the place of the present contributors. Should this, however, not prove to be the case, then the creditors shall not withdraw their loans until like sums are willingly offered; for the fund shall under no circumstances be discontinued, unless to our knowledge an injustice should ensue therefrom. Moreover, judicial fairness shall as much as possible be observed between

us in this matter; and should any such supporters of the fund, or their heirs, become impoverished, they shall be considerably dealt with and released, if not otherwise, then by the subscribers, to wit.
Fac-simile of a curious letter of Benjamin Franklin, which reads thus:

Philad^a July 5, 1775

Mr. Strahan,

You are a member of Parliament, and one of that Majority which has doomed my Country to Destruction.—You have begun to burn our Towns, and murder our People.—Look upon your Hands!—They are stained with the Blood of your Relations! —You and I were long Friends:—You are now my Enemy,—and

I am, Yours,

B. FRANKLIN.

Fac-simile of title-page and an entire calendar page of the first edition of Poor Richard's Almanac for 1733. Printed and sold by B. Franklin, at the new printing office, near the market.

Fac-simile of a letter of George Washington, December 10, 1796. Written to Richard Peters, Philadelphia.

DEEDS AND PARCHMENT DOCUMENTS.

Deed, dated May 16, 1682, for 500 acres of land, subsequently located in Montgomery county, given by William Penn, and bearing his autograph. It contains a recital of King Charles' grant of the entire province to the Proprietary. It is notable for its extraordinary fine penmanship, and for bearing date prior to Penn's coming in Pennsylvania.

Deed of the Penns for a tract in Old Cowissopin (Goshenhoppen) under the Lesser Seal. 1734. Exhibited on account of its neat and very peculiar penmanship.

Deed of William Penn to David Powell, for 800 acres, with the Great Seal. 1713.

Deed or Quit Rent Lease, for 102 acres, the consideration per annum being "one Pepper Corn only upon the last day of the term if the same be lawfully demanded." 1734.

Naturalization paper of Peter Keyser, Derrick Keyser, Francis Daniel Pastorius, and sixty-one other persons, issued under authority of William Penn, Proprietary, by Thomas Lloyd, Deputy Governor, at Philadelphia, on the 8th day of Third-month (May), Anno Domini 1691, and in the third year of the reign of King William and Queen Mary. This important document is in the handwriting of Francis Daniel Pastorius, and bears several endorsements. One is, "Ex Libris Christiani Lehman, to be laid by for my Children. Philada. August 23d, 1771." Obtained by the exhibitor from the widow of Benjamin Lehman, a grandson of Christian Lehman.

An Apprentice's Certificate and Recommendation, September 29, 1686. A curious large, heavy parchment, $23 \times 16\frac{1}{2}$ inches, in ornamented German penmanship.

Naturalization Paper of George Andrews (Anders), of Towamensing, dated April 11, 1755.

Germantown Friends' Protest against Slavery, 1688. Fac-simile of the original, accidentally discovered not so very long ago.

On the 18th day of April, 1688, Gerhard Hendricks, Dirck Op den Graeff, Francis Daniel Pastorius, and Abraham Op den Graeff, sent to the Friends' meeting the first public protest ever made on this continent against the holding of slaves; a little rill there started, which further on became an immense torrent; and whenever hereafter men trace analytically the causes which led to Shiloh, Gettysburg, and Appomattox, they will begin with the tender consciences of the linen weavers and husbandmen of Germantown.—*The settlement of Germantown, Pa.* By SAMUEL W. PENNYPACKER, Esq., Philadelphia.

Printed copy of Germantown Friends' Protest Against Slavery, 1688.

Cassel, Isaac R., North Wales. Forty-nine copies Forney's War Press. Philadelphia Inquirer, April 20, 1865, containing account of Lincoln's burial. Boston Gazette, March 12, 1770. Brother Jonathan (newspaper), January 1, 1844. Dante's Purgatory. Dictionary of the Arabian Language. Four volumes. 1632. Burnett's History of the Reformation in England. Two volumes. 1681. Casper Schwenkfeld's Works. 1670. Mysteries of Theology. 1684. Philip Melancthon's Epistles, in Latin. 1693. Essays on the Teachings of the Spirit. 1735. Hoburg's Postilla. One volume. 1663. Bible. Published by Bible Society. Philadelphia, 1812. Testament and Psalm Book. 1770. Hymn Book. 1639. Young Clerk's

- Magazine. Albany, 1763. Catechism. Philadelphia, 1763. Four Prayer Books. 1746, 1767, 1770, 1794. The Little Charmer. 1767. Goldsmith's Animated Nature. Four volumes. 1795. Emporium of Arts and Sciences. Three volumes. 1815
- Cassel, Jacob**, Kulpsville. Will of Henry Cassel. 1797.
- Cassel, Mrs. James**, Belfry. German Account Book; oldest date, 1734. Containing the account of the exhibitor's great-great-grandfather, —Harley, and great-grandfather, Samuel Harley.
- Cassin, William**, Philadelphia. Poor Richard's Almanac. 1788—1791. The True American Commercial Advertiser. 1799.
- Colaman, Rev. D. Levin**, Centre Square. Deed for one and one-half acres of land, in Whitpain township, dated June 26, 1773, from George Kastner and Elizabeth his wife to Paul Bauer and George Bergheimer, of Whitpain; Michael Hawke, George Gossinger, Adam Fleck, and Peter Young of Gwynedd; and Adam Hoffman and Martin Neyberger, of Worcester. St. John's Lutheran Church, of Centre Square, now stands upon the ground conveyed by this deed. Telugu Bible. Printed for a tribe of aborigines in Hindostan. German Bible. Nuremberg edition; bound in sheepskin. 1743. Illustrated with the portraits of the living Princes of that period.
- Comfort, Mrs. John**, Norristown. Book, said to be 210 years old.
- Conrow, Mrs. Emma**, Norristown. Royal Magazine.
- Cope, O. W.**, Hatboro. William Penn Deed, 1681. In good state of preservation, and has the large wax seal of William Penn attached. Thomas Fletcher Deed, 1787.
- Corson, Alan W.**, Norristown. Doctrine of Fluxions. 1743.
- Cottman, Charles**, Abington. Public Ledger, Friday, March 25, 1836.
- Cressman, H. C.**, Norristown. English Bible. 1792.
- Cresson, Mary H.**, Norristown. Maynard's Josephus. Philadelphia, 1695. French book, by Charles Drelincourt. 1648.
- Cresson, Mary J.**, Norristown. Penn's Select Works. London, 1771. History of Pennsylvania, by Robert Proud. Two Volumes. 1797. Journal of George Fox. 1865.
- Cresson, Miss Sarah**, Conshohocken. Paper, published at the Sanitary Fair held at Philadelphia in 1864.
- Cresswell, Debora M.**, Merion. Bible, containing the following writing: "Edward Jones and others, leaving their native land free of debt, arrived in the River Schuylkill 13th of 8th mo. 1682, in ship Lyon, John Campbell, Master."
- Curwen, George F.**, Villa Nova. Æsop's Fables, in Latin. 1691. Book, dated 1752. 1696. Norristown Herald. 1813.
- Davis, Jesse B.**, Norristown. Invitation to funeral of Benjamin Franklin.
- Davis, John J.**, Jenkintown. Welsh Bible. 1744.
- Davis, Mrs.**, Norristown. German Bible, over 100 years old.
- Deaves, Isaac**, Blue Bell. Almanac. 1799.
- DeHaven, Hugh**, King-of-Prussia. Old Paper.
- Detwiler, Jones**, Blue Bell. The Votes of the Assembly of Pennsylvania. 1744—1758. Music Book, containing the gamut or scale, with various tunes and hymns, written with a pen by Christian Loeser, 1775. Music Book, very old. Size 4½x2½ inches. Wythe's Repository of the Sacred Harp. Harrisburg: John Wise, 1827. Dyer's Sacred Music. Philadelphia; D Fanshaw, 1828.
- Sermon preached at Neshaminy, Bucks County, December 14, 1743, before the ordination of Rev. Charles Beatty, by Gilbert Tennent, A. M. Philadelphia: William Bradford, 1744.
- Columbia Magazine; or, Monthly Miscellany. December, 1786, Philadelphia.
- A Mirror for all Mankind; or, Instructive Examples from the Life and Conduct of Christian Funk, a Faithful Minister of the Word of God among the Mennonites, during and many years after the Revolution. Norristown: James Winnard, 1814.
- Father Abraham's Almanack, for the year 1777, containing the astronomical calculations made by David Rittenhouse, of which the publisher says: "Therefore they can be most firmly relied on." The Rittenhouse Almanac, for 1806. By Bailly.
- An Apprentice's Indenture, dated March 8, 1775, between Joseph White, of Hershaw, and Cadwalder Roberts, of Montgomery, the former binding himself for five years to learn carpentering. Norristown Herald. Published by Samuel Ladd, in 1815; David Sower, Jr., in 1820; Robert Iredell, in 1851; Iredell & Butler, in 1844; Iredell & Jones, in 1857.
- Norristown Register. Published by James Winnard, in 1822; Adam Slemmer, in 1840; Samuel D. Patterson, in 1848; Patterson & Slemmer, in 1849; E. L. Acker, 1858; Isaiah B. Houp, 1878.
- Montgomery Watchman. Published by Fry & Moore. National Democrat. Published by the friends of Stephen A. Douglas for President. Olive Branch. The first temperance paper published in the county. By Franklin Sellers. Village Record, West Chester, December 2, 1828. National Republican Advocate, West Chester, March 12, 1833. Public Ledger, Philadelphia, 1839. New Testament, in French. Christian Ulric Wagner, Ulm, 1771. Edmund Heckerlingill's Works on the Priestcraft. London, 1716. Sermons. By Rev. James Pierce, of Exton, England. London 1727. New Testament and Psalms and Church Lessons of the Lutheran Church, in German. Published at Amsterdam by Isaac Vander Putte, H. Burgers, Philip Losel and Garrett Boum. in 1737.
- De Imitatione Christi. By Thomas à Kempis. Dublin, 1793.
- Life of Washington. By Ramsey. Baltimore, 1815.
- Buck's History of Montgomery County within the Schuylkill Valley.
- Valley Forge and Surroundings. 1770—1780.
- Advertisement, printed in English and German, for the sale of real estate in Upper Dublin township, March 3, 1796.
- The Pennsylvania Farmer, 1804. By Job Roberts, of Whitpain township. The first work on the subject of agriculture published in Montgomery county.
- The Original and Present State of Man, Briefly Considered. By Joseph Phipps. Philadelphia, 1783.
- Bible, Hymn Book, and Record Book of Boehm's Reformed Church, Whitpain township. Exhibited by authority of a resolution passed by the Consistory of the congregation, September 4, 1884. The Bible was published at Basle, by John Ludwig Brandmiller, in 1747. It is a large folio, and contains 988 pages. In it are recorded all the names of the pastors from 1740 to 1884. The Hym Book was published at Marburg, in 1771, by Henry Ludwig Brommer, and contains the Psalms set to music, hymns, catechism, and the lessons according to the church year then in use in the Reformed Church. The Record Book was commenced by the Rev. George Alsentz, in 1764, and contains the register of the births from that time until 1832.
- Deed for 450 acres of land, dated May 25, 1683, from William Penn to William Cares.
- Deed for 106 acres of land in Whitpain township, dated July 25, 1725, from Anthony Morris and others to Everts In De Hoven.
- Bond for £150, dated October 15, 1772, by Nicholas Kneezel, of Whitpain, to James Stephens, of New Jersey.
- Detwiler, Mrs. Milton V.**, Oaks. Deed, given by Penn to James Hamer in 1717. Deed, by Richard and Thomas Penn, 1761, for land now owned by Mrs. Detwiler.
- Diener, Mrs. Jacob M.**, Trappe. German Bible.
- Dorworth, Joseph H.**, Norritonville. History of the Bible. 1829. Norristown Gazette. Volume 1. 1799.
- Dotterer, Henry S.**, Philadelphia. Denkmal der Liebe und Achtung welches D. Heinrich Melchior Muhlenberg ist gesetzt worden. 1788. Memorial sermon on the death of Dr. Muhlenberg, preached October 21, 1787, by Rev. J. H. C. Helmuth, pastor of St. Michael's and Zion congregations, Philadelphia. With copper-plate portrait and biographical sketch of Dr. Muhlenberg.
- Memoirs of the late Rev. John Antes. A fragment of the Port Folio of Oliver Oldschool, Esq. Philadelphia: April, 1813. John Antes was born March 24, 1740, on one of his father's estates in Frederick township, Montgomery (then Philadelphia) county. He was baptized in the society of the Moravian Brethren when six years of age. In January, 1764, he visited Europe, and went to Herrnhut; from there he went to Newuid to learn watchmaking. January 16, 1769, he received a call to serve the Moravian mission then forming at Grand Cairo, in Egypt, which place he reached on the 10th of February following. In 1773 he made the acquaintance of Mr. Bruce, the celebrated traveler, at Cairo, and rendered him valuable assistance in making fine instruments. The same year he visited the Copts at Behnesse. In August, 1781, he left Cairo, after a twelve years' residence in Egypt, and the next year he attended the General Synod of the Brethren's church at Berthelsdorf, in Saxony. In 1785, he accepted the position of warden of the Brethren's congregation at Fulne, in Yorkshire, England. In June, 1786, he married, and in 1801 he traveled with his wife by way of Hull and Hamburg to Herrnhut. Having obtained dismission from his office in 1808, he chose Bristol for his abode, where, December 17, 1811, he died.
- Hochdeutsche Reformirte Kirchen-Ordnung. Summeytown: Enos Benner, 1830.
- Des Americanischen Seidebauers Anweisung, durch William Kenrick. With an interesting appendix by Joel Schelly, M.D., late of Hereford township, Berks county. Philadelphia: Edmund Y. Schelly, 1838.

- An Explanation of Incidents that took place among the so-called Mennonites. Skippack : J. M. Schueneman & Co., 1854.
- Corporations-Akte, der Evangelischen Lutherischen Gemeinde, in Neu-Hanover Township. Pennsburg : A. Kneule, 1859.
- Die Ansiedlung und Begründung der Mennoniten Gemeinschaft in Canada, von Dr. A. Eby. Milford Square : J. G. Stauffer, 1872.
- History and Memorial Report of the Rights of the Heirs of Theobald Metzger. Allentown, 1868.
- Tauf-schein (certificate of baptism) of Conrad Dotterer, son of Michael and Catharina (Reiff) Dotterer, born in Frederick township, April 19, 1769, at nine o'clock in the forenoon ; grandfather of the exhibitor.
- Geburts und Tauf-schein of Rebecca, daughter of Lewis and Eliza beth (Markley) Linsinbigler, born in New Hanover township, April 20, 1799 ; maternal grandmother of exhibitor.
- Specimen of copy furnished to the press by Samuel D. Patterson, editor and litterateur, late of Evansburg. Mr. Patterson's manuscript was noted for its clearness and beauty, and its correct punctuation, orthography, and capitalization.
- Doubt, Henry**, Flouertown. First Journals of Congress. Two volumes.
- Drake, Mrs. Aram**, Kulpsville. Marriage Certificate of John Lukens. 1753.
- Dresher, Abraham**, Worcester. Sermon book, entitled Johann Philip Fresenius Auserlesene heilige Reden über die Sonn und Festtags Evangelien durch das ganze Jahr. Neue Auflage. Bound in leather ; size, $9\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{1}{2} \times 3$ inches. Franckfurt und Leipzig : bey Heinrich Ludwig Bronner, 1767.
- Von der Heiligen Schrift ; sein Inhalt, Amt, rechtem Nutz, Brauch und Misbrauch. No date.
- Postilla, und Auslegung der Evangelien verredigt durch den Gottgelehrten Mann Michael Hillern. Leather ; size, $12 \times 8 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. 1755.
- Kurtze Lebens Beschreibung des hocherleuchten Caspar Schwenkfeld. Aufgesetzt im Jahr 1744. Leather ; size, $7\frac{1}{2} \times 6 \times 2$ inches.
- Psalm Buch, mit Kurtzer erklerung aus H. Schrift durch Adam Reiszner. Abgeschrieben Anno 1751. German manuscript. Bound in leather ; size, $8 \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ inches.
- German Manuscript Book. Michael Hillern's writings. Abgeschrieben und zusammen getragen durch Nickolaus Tetschten im Jahr 1571. Bound in leather ; size, $12 \times 9 \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
- Gesang-Buch. Germantown : Christoph Saur, 1762.
- Gebet-Büchlein. Reprint of the original, dated 1705. Size, $5 \times 3 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
- Dull, Mary**, Hartranft. Bible, brought from Germany by Frederick Dull in 1776.
- Eastburn, Annie**, Bridgeport. Deed, dated 1733, from the children of Penn.
- Eberle, The Misses**, Oak Lane. Music Book. 1809.
- Eckard, James Read**, Abington. Bound collection of early newspapers of Pennsylvania.
- Egbert, Dr. Joseph C.**, General Wayne. German Bible, formerly owned by exhibitor's great-great-grandfather.
- Egbert, W. R.**, Norristown. Pope's Poems, over 100 years old.
- Egolf, Gus**, Norristown. German Bible. Germantown : Christoph Saur, 1776. German Bible. Reading : Gottlob Jungmann, 1805. Der Blutige Schau-Platz oder Martyren Spiegel der Tauffs Gesinnten, by T. J. V. Braght. Ephrata in Pennsylvanien, Druck und Verlags der Bruderschaft. 1748. Die Wandelnde Seele. By Johann Philip Schabalie. Germantown : Christoph Saur, 1768. Caspar Schwenkfeld's Erläuterung. Breslau und Leipzig, 1771. Der Geschwinde Rechner. Baltimore : Samuel Saur, 1801. Christliche Lieder. Germantown : Christoph Saur, 1767. German Bible. Germantown : Christoph Saur, 1776. On a front fly-leaf, in fractur-schrift, is the record of the marriage of Daniel Landes and Maria Fretz, on November 25, 1790.
- Elkinton, George**, Blue Bell. The Theory of the Earth. London, 1684.
- Elkinton, Mrs. George**, Blue Bell. Life of John Richardson. 1774.
- Emery, John**, Cheltenham. Lady's Book. Six volumes. 1831—1833. Columbian Magazine. Volume 1. 1786.
- Erb, Elijah**, Kulpsville. German Bible. 1736.
- Erb, Mahlon**, Kulpsville. Von der Sprise des Ewigen Lebens. By Caspar Schwenkfeld. 1547. Messias. Das Jhesus sey Christus der ware Messias. Franckfurt an Mayn, 1566. Ueber die furnembsten Spruch im Hohen Lied Salomanis. Gedrukt und verlegt durch Jacob von der Heyden, Chalcograph, 1622. Illustrated. Der Unbekante Christus. Franckfurth : von Samuel Mueller zum Druck befördert, 1696. Evangelia, mit den Epistole auf alle Sonn und Fest-Tage. Augustin Vogel, 1701. Johann Arnds Paradiess Gärtlein. Germantown : Christoph Saur, 1765.
- Evans, J. S.**, Gwynedd. Deed for a large tract in Gwynedd, dated 1683, from William Penn to Thomas Evans, bearing the seal of William Penn.
- Faust, Jacob**, Perkiomenville. New Testament, in German. Martin Luther's translation, Amsterdam, 1697.
- Felty, Samuel**, Jenkintown. Sermons. Frankfort, Germany, 1643.
- Fleck, Mrs. Henry**, Norristown. German Singing Book. 1799.
- Fluck, Mrs. Amos**, Perkiomenville. The Ready Reckoner. Germantown : Christoph Saur, 1774. German Bible. 1725.
- Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox**, Norristown. Four original Receipts. One receipt is for subscription towards building Providence Presbyterian church ; another receipt is for liquors furnished at decedent's funeral. Bond, dated 1778. The clause relating to the King of Great Britain erased by the obligor.
- Fornance, Joseph**, Norristown. Certificate of membership of the Cincinnati Society. Autographs of General Washington and General Knox.
- Foulke, Annie J.**, Conshohocken. Labors of John Churchman. The full title is : The Gospel Labors and Christian Experiences of a Faithful Minister of Christ, John Churchman, late of Nottingham, in Pennsylvania, deceased. To which is added a short memorial of the Life and Death of a Fellow-Laborer in the Church, our Valuable Friend, Joseph White, late of Bucks Co. Printed by Joseph Cruikshank, on the North Side of Market street, between Second and Third streets. Philadelphia, 1759.
- Freas, Mrs. David W.**, Norristown. Bible, 200 years old.
- Frederick, John**, Douglass. German Bible. 1536.
- Frederick, Mrs. William**, Schwenksville. German Bible. Once owned by the great-grandfather of Jacob Johnson.
- Freed, Isaac G.**, North Wales. Schwenkfeld Catechism, manuscript. Copied 1759.
- Freedley, Mrs. Dr.**, Conshohocken. The Vegetable System. 1759.
- Freeman, John**, Worcester. Old Books.
- Frey, Jacob**, Douglass. Christian Duties, German. 1770. German Hymn Book. 1783.
- Fryer, Henry S.**, Skippack. Names of the family of Bernhart Fryer and wife. 1783.
- Gable, Percival K.**, Skippack. Tavern License, issued September 25, 1787, to John Philip Gable, of Upper Salford. Ledger Account, kept by John Philip Gable, from November 27, 1766, to June 23, 1774.
- Garsed, Mrs. Robert P.**, Norristown. Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser. 1784. Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser. 1786. Federal Gazette. 1789, 1790. The Independent Gazetteer. 1789, 1794. Philadelphia Daily Advertiser. 1790. General Advertiser. Published by Benjamin Franklin Bache, April, 1794, to January, 1803. Gazette of the United States. 1794, 1797, 1799, 1802. Porcupine's Gazette. 1797. The Daily Advertiser. 1797. The Philadelphia Gazette. 1794. Merchants' Daily Advertiser. 1798. The Dessert to the True American. 1798. The True American. 1799. Poulson's American Daily Advertiser. 1801. The Port Folio. By Oliver Oldschool. 1801. Relf's Philadelphia Gazette. 1803. Works of John Woolman. 1774. Youth's Cabinet of Nature. 1802. Christian Advices. Published by the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Philadelphia. 1808. Poor Will's Almanac. 1823. Foulke's Almanac. 1832. United States Almanac. 1837. American Museum, Dedicated to George Washington. 1788. Deed of part of Norris property. 1750. Original Deed of William Penn. 1703.
- Gaumer, Jacob, Sr.**, Fairview Village. German Hymn Book. 1777.
- Geyer, Jacob K.**, Pottstown. Dr. John Jacob Rambach's Moral Philosophy. 1736.
- Gibson, Rev. Isaac**, Norristown. Latin Bible. 1661.
- Godshalk, Charles D.**, Kulpsville. Epistle Sermon Book. Initials, "H. C. H." 1738.
- Godshall, Mrs. R. H.**, Ironbridge. German Book. Came from Germany as the property of exhibitor's grandfather, Scholl.
- Gotwals, William K.**, Fairview Village. Der Plutige Schau-platz oder Martyrer Spiegel der Tauffs-gesinnten oder Wehrlosen Christen. Zweyte Theil. Ephrata in Pennsylvania, 1749. Hochzeit Lied, gerichtet auf den Tag der Verehlichung des ehrbaren und vielgeliebten Freundes Andreas Beyer mit der viel Ehr und Tugend gelobten Jung-

- frau Philippiene Wyandin, gehalten den 14ten Tag November, 1758. The original and a copy made in 1847 by H. G. Johnson for Catharine Rittenhouse, the great-granddaughter of the married pair, and now the wife of the exhibitor. Ausbund, Das ist etliche schöne Christliche Lieder. Germantown : Leibert and Billmeyer, 1785. Das Kleine Davidische Psalterspiel der Kinder Zions. Germantown. Christoph Saur, 1777. Neu-gebautes und zugerichtetes Bienen Hauslein. A description of the bee. By Johann Grutzman. 1669. Christliche Betrachtungen über die Evangelischen Texte. By Erasmus Weichenhan. Germantown : Michael Billmeyer, 1791. Die hundert und fünfzig Psalmen Davids. A manuscript book, written in very elegant hand, by Daniel Suderman, in 1758. Robert Barclay's Apologie, oder Vertheidigungs-schrift der wahren Christlichen Gottesgelehrtheit, wie solche unter dem Volk so man aus Spott Quaker das ist Zitterer nennet. Anno 1740. In it is written, "Abraham Anders 7 Dec. 1767." Neu-eingerichtetes Gesang-Buch, in sich haltend eine Sammlung schöner lehrreicher und erhaullicher Lieder. Germantown : Christoph Saur, 1762.
- Grater, Abraham**, Collegeville. Luther's German Testament. Basel Bible.
- Griggs, Miss Clara**, Norristown. German Bible and Certificate.
- Grimley, Solomon K.**, Schwenksville. Two books, supposed to have been written by Luther, and brought to this country by Rev. Hans Peter Miller; 150 years of age. Handbüchlein wider das Paps-thum. Von Herrn D. Matthia Höen : Leipzig, 1692. Postill. Von Johann Spangenberg : Nürnberg, 1772. Onolzbach Bible. No date. English Bible, Edinburgh, 1794. German Bible. Heilbronn, 1736. Lobwasser's Kirchengesangbuch. 1799. Hymn Book of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg; first edition. 1786. Lobwasser Book and Testament. 1770. Aufmunternde Gründe zu Lesung der Schriften Jacob Boehmens. By Joh. Theodori Von Tschesch. With a life of the author. Frankfurt und Leipzig, 1731. Marburger Hymn Book. 1763. Lutheran Hymn Book. 1812. German Reformed Catechisms. 1790 and 1795. Salems Wächter. 1726. Streepers Psalm. 1796. Mennonite Catechism. 1790. Testament of William Fox. 1829. Sarah Nunemacher's books. German Catechism, 1809; Note Book, 1815; Certificate of Birth and Baptism, 1801; Marriage Certificate, 1844.
- Gross, J. W. S.**, Collegeville. A Sheriff's Writ from the Commonwealth of Virginia to the Sheriff of Fairfax county. 1799.
- Grubb, Rev. N. B.**, Philadelphia. Eine Restitution, oder eine Erklärung einiger Haupt-puncten des Gesetzes. Aufgesetzt in 25 Theil durch einen Lehrer (Minister) des Neuen und Alten Testaments, in der Gemein der Gläubigen in Jesum Christum: die man mit dem Bey-namen nennet die Wieder-täufer oder Mennonisten, Henrich Funck. Philadelphia: Gedruckt bey Anton Armbrüster in Moravian Ally, 1763. 310 pages. Size, $6\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{4}$ inches; bound in leather, with brass clasps. In good state of preservation. The autograph of Andrew Ziegler, an early resident of Skippack, is on a fly-leaf. Thomæ Wilcocks köstlicher Honig-Tropfen aus dem Felsen Christo. Philadelphia: Gedruckt und zu finden bey Henrich Miller, in der Rees-strasse. 1774. Pamphlet, 32 pages. Kurze Fragen ueber die Christliche Glaubens-Lehre. Philadelphia: Carl Cist, 1784. 140 pages. Size, $3\frac{3}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches; bound in thick paper. Der Merkwürdige Lebens-Lauf, Sonderbare Bekehrung, und Entzückungen, des ohnlängst bey Germantown (in Pennsylvanien) wohnenden und verstorbenen Dr. George de Benneville. Preface, by Elhanan Winchester. Lebanon : Gedruckt und zu haben, bey J. Schnee, 1809.
- Haldeman, Mrs. M. F.**, Fairview Village. German Song Book. 1762.
- Hallman, William F.**, Skippack. Conveyance Papers and Drafts, covering property in Perkiomen township, viz.: Deed, Van Bebbert to Gerhart Clemens, 1711; Gerhart Clemens to Michael Ziegler, 1722; Van Bebbert to Andrew Schragert, 1709; Andrew Schragert to Michael Ziegler, 1720; David Powell to Michael Ziegler, 1718. Deed to Michael Ziegler, 1749; Michael Ziegler to Michael Ziegler, his son, May 26, 1762. Deed, Michael Ziegler to Christian Croll, dated April 23, 1813. Three Ledgers of Michael Ziegler and sons, tanners, in Skippack, dating back to 1747; one is covered with leather of their own tanning.
- Hallowell, A. G.**, Norristown. The Original and Present State of Man. By Joseph Phipps. Philadelphia, 1783. North American Indians. By Samuel G. Drake. Universal Magazine, London, 1798. Addison's Works. 1712.
- Hallowell, Mrs. C. R.**, Norristown. Bible. 1759. Burkhart's Notes. Churchman's Gospel Labors. 1734.
- Hallowell, Elizabeth**, Jenkintown. Modern Miscellany: Poetry, History, Philosophy, Moral Essays, &c. 1848.
- Hallowell, Miss E. L.**, Upper Merion. Bible. Bible Stories. Song Book.
- Hampton, Powell**, Bridgeport. Bible, 100 years old.
- Harley, Mrs. L.**, Port Providence. Deeds and Lease. 1681, 1724, 1800.
- Harmon, George**, Norristown. Four old German books. German Bible, 300 years old.
- Harper, Jesse E.**, Edgo Hill Village. Robert Barclay's Apology. 1776.
- Harry, Miss Anna**, Conshohocken. Five Deeds for land belonging to the Harry family, on which the borough of Conshohocken is now situated.
- Harvey, Mrs. M. J. C.**, Jenkintown. Deed, with large wax seal in box. 1704. Pocket Almanac. 1784. Letter from Henry Wynkoop, member of Congress. 1790.
- Heacock, Annie**, Jenkintown. Goldsmith's England. Four volumes. 1789. Account Book. 1713.
- Heacock, John**, Jenkintown. Book of Curiosities.
- Heacock, William**, Philadelphia. Family Bible. 1706.
- Heckler, James Y.**, Harleysville. The Heckler Family Tree. A drawing.
- Heller, George K.**, Cheltenham. List of Tax Papers. 1840. Old Newspapers.
- Higley, Miss M. P.**, Norristown. German Bible. 1643. Prayer Book. 1757.
- Hobson, F. G.**, Collegeville. Two Autograph Letters from General Peter Muhlenberg, a member of the Assembly, to Israel Bringhurst, great-grandfather of the exhibitor, as follows:
- March 11, 1798.
- Dear Sir; I have received your note and am sorry to hear that you are unwell, but not so much on my own account as yours. If you had called upon me to day, you would have dined on rock fish &c etc., in company with good democrats, thus you see what you have lost by pretending to be sick. The election District passed the House, unanimously on Friday last. It will be discussed in the Senate on Tuesday next. Your letter had the desired effect. * *
- * These confounded Democrats push the bowl so briskly that I can hardly see to write, and can therefore only say God bless you if possible
- Yours
P. MUHLENBERG.
- PHILADELPHIA, March 26, 1798.
- Dear Sir: Yours of the 14th did not reach my hands until this morning. The fate of our election districts, you are by this time undoubtedly acquainted with. The bill passed our house without opposition, but in the Senate, through the intrigues of Messrs. Potts and Evans, it was amended in such a manner that its original features were totally lost. They fixed districts at — and one at Pottsgrove the other at Snyder's was to be abolished. In this way it stood. But finding the amendment stood no chance in our house, they postponed the bill generally, so that it now sleeps, and is at rest: hoping for a joyful resurrection. * * *
- Fate and destiny combined with the aristocrats are hurrying us precipitately into a ruinous and bloody war, and the chance of escape is a slender one indeed. You will see by the papers, that an attempt was made in our house to instruct our Senators in Congress to maintain the peace if possible, but strange to tell, all the Quakers, Old Tories &c voted against it, so that they are for war and the fighting men for Peace.
- A Report is in circulation that our Ministers in Great Britain have concluded an alliance offensive and defensive with that nation, how true I know not. You can see by this scrawl that I am not very well calculated for writing this day. With respect and esteem I am dear sir Your most obedient servant.
- P. MUHLENBERG.
- Perkiomen Bridge Lottery Ticket. The present bridge structure over the Perkiomen creek at Collegeville was built by the county of Montgomery. In order to raise the necessary funds, the Legislature of Pennsylvania, February 21, 1797, passed an act "for raising by way of lottery the sum of twenty thousand dollars to build this bridge." Twenty thousand tickets were sold. One of them is in possession of the exhibitor, and reads as follows:
- No. 246. PERKIOMEN BRIDGE LOTTERY.
Class the First.
- This ticket entitles the bearer to such prize as may be drawn against its number, if demanded within twelve months after the publication of the fortunate number, subject to a deduction of 20 per cent.
- P. MUHLENBERG.

Autograph Letter. Wright Armat to Israel Bringham, giving the origin of the name of Wright A. Bringham, as follows :

PHILAD July 2, 1799.

Sir: Yours for Mr. Baird is at hand—with One Hundred and four Dollars—for which he has a receipt and you have credit. If I must name your son—let it be *Wright Armat Bringham*. The molasses you will receive with a bill. Yours, WRIGHT ARMAT.

Autograph Letter from Francis R. Shunk to Wright A. Bringham, concerning the origin of the name of "Trappe,"

Autograph Letter. Matt. Henderson to M. Barton, dated Phila. 25 April 1701.

An Interesting Appendix to Blackstone's Commentaries, relating to the Dissenters in America. Printed for the subscribers by Robert Bell. Philadelphia, MDCCLXIII.

The Clerk's Magazine; or, Law Repository. Dublin, 1776.

Hobson, Miss Mary M., Collegeville. The Second Parte of the Christian Warfare; or the Contempt of the World. Tending to arme and confirme the weake Christian against the tentations of prosperity, and to preserue him from the immoderate loue of earthly things: by prouing vnto him, that both the world and worldly unities are so base and worthless, that they deserue not to be esteemed and loved of a Christian, in comparison of God's spiritvall graces and heavenly voyes. Written as an antidote against the poyson of Worldly-Loue, with which in these daies so many are infected; and that it might reuise that heavenly fire of spiritvall and diuine loue, which is so much cooled and abated. By I DOVNAME, Bachelor in Diuinitie, and Preacher of God's Word. London: Printed by Thomas Snodham, 1619.

Hodgkins, S. T., Norristown. Plutarch's Morals. London, 1690.

Hoffecker, R. F., Norristown. Autograph of General Anthony Wayne.

Holstein, Dr. George W., Bridgeport. Swedish Book, representing scenes in Swedish life. Given to Dr. Holstein by Hon. C. J. Dannfelt.

Homer, Mrs. Anna, Norristown. Toy Bible. 1788.

Homer, J. W. A., Norristown. Toy Book, 100 years old.

Homer, Samuel, Norristown. Original Marriage Certificate, on parchment, of William Sandford to Frances Homer, dated 31st of Third-month, 1684, at Bristol, Bucks county; contains the autographs of between thirty and forty witnesses present at the ceremony.

Hoot, Simon F., Ironbridge. German Dictionary.

Hoover, Hiram C., Hartranft. Bible, over 100 years old.

Humphreys, Miss Fannie, Bryn Mawr. Boston News Letter. April 17, 1704.

Hunsicker, A. D., Ironbridge. Patents of Land, dated and recorded 1702 and 1760.

Hunsicker, Mrs. J. R., Norristown. Public Ledger. First issue of the paper by Swaine, Abell & Simmons. *

Iredell, D. W., Horsham. Note Book, 168 years old.

Iredell, Sarah, Norristown. Marriage Certificate, dated 1749. Thomas Barnes and Eliza Palmer. Marriage Certificate, dated 1751. Thomas Wilkins and Elizabeth Bliss. Marriage Certificate, dated 1766. Rynear Kirk and Elizabeth Wilkins. Will made in 1682, on shipboard, by George Palmer. Lease, dated 1718, by Thomas Carpenter.

Jacobs, Mrs. Oliver K., Norristown. German Bible. Ludwigsburg; Johannes Schreitmüller, 1746.

Jacobs, William, East Greenville. Account Book, dated 1762.

Jarrett, Mrs. Annie, Ambler. Marriage Certificates, 1773 and 1784.

Jenkins, Algernon S., Gwynedd. Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives of the Province of Pennsylvania, beginning December 4, 1682; first volume. Formerly belonged to the family and ancestors of Cadwalader Foulke, a noted and accurate surveyor, for many years a resident of Gwynedd township. Printed and sold by B. Franklin and D. Hall, Philadelphia, MDCCLII. Sermons of Richard Price. Dublin, 1787.

Johns, E. M., Norristown. History of Slavery.

Jones, Charles W., Conshohocken. Music Book. By Hacton, 1758. Certificate from the New Jersey Anti-Slavery Society.

Jones, John, Conshohocken. Theism: A prophecy. Philadelphia, 1763. Copy of Norristown Free Press.

Jones, Miss Sarah, Gulf Mills. Welsh Bible. 1727.

Jones, Mrs., Norristown. German Bible, more than 100 years old.

Keech, Jacob, Lower Merion. Laws of Pennsylvania. 1700.

Keech, Mrs. Joseph, Lower Merion. Llewellyn Bible. Formerly owned by exhibitor's grandfather, Morris Llewellyn.

Keeler, Mrs. Henry, Trappe. Bible, between 300 and 400 years old.

Kehr, Mrs. Elizabeth, Broad Axe. German Bible.

Keller, Charles M., Douglass. History of England. About 1782. Three Deeds. 1761, 1788, 1792.

Keller, Mrs. Henry, North Wales. Prayer Book. 1790. In exhibitor's family several generations.

Kenderdine, Mrs. Lavinia, North Wales. Bible, 1788.

Kettarar, Roman, Somerton. Quarto Polyglot Book. Ten old Books. Two packages of old Almanacs.

Kite, Mrs. George R., Norristown. Old Song Book.

Kneas, Miss Ella, Norristown. Morgen und Abend Andachten. Nürnberg, 1786. Das Gottselige Leben und Ende der Hochgebornen Gräfinn und Frau Sophie Charlotte, Gräfinn zu Etolberg, Konigstein, etc. 1764. Charlotta Elisab. Rebelin gebornen Rambachin sämtliche Poesien. 1763.

Knedler, Mrs. Jacob H., North Wales. Gernan Bible. 1733.

Kratz, William L., Worcester. German Bible. Germantown: Christopher Saur, 1763. Owned first by Valentine Kratz, of Upper Salford township; then by his son, David Kratz, of Worcester township; now by exhibitor. History of the Bible German. Hamburg, December 24, 1712. Geistliches Blumen Gartlein. Mülheim, 1744. Small Prayer Book. German. By Dr. John Haberman. Germantown: Peter Leibert, 1795. Life of Caspar Schwenckfeld. Philadelphia: Heinrich Miller, 1771. Psalter German. Philadelphia Anton Armbruster, on Race street, 1767.

Kriebel, Abraham, Niantic. Christian Fight. 1547. German History of Jerusalem. 1563. German Religious Work. 1589. Christain Faith. 1592. German Bible. 1707. German Hymn Book. By Zinzendorf. 1725. Teachings and Experiences, written. German. 1748. Horse Doctor German. 1757. English Bible. 1764. Tract. 1769.

Kriebel, Mrs. Andrew K., Kulpsville. Arnold's Sermon Book. 1714. Prayer Book. 1674.

Kriebel, Mrs. Annie, Kulpsville. Book of Sermons. By John Werner. Bound in hog skin. 1586. Hymn Book. 1762. Catechism and Hymus. By George Weiss. 1726.

Kriebel, Franklin, North Wales. Bible. 1813

Kriebel, Jessie S., Worcester. Four old Books.

Kriebel, Joseph, Worcester. Five Books. 1560, 1607, 1656, 1706, 1716.

Kulp, Elias K., Lederachville. Two Rewards of Merit, from a schoolmaster named Spielhauser; dated April 22, 1784, and 1787.

Kulp, Mrs. Martin, Kulpsville. German Bible. Printed by Saur. 1743.

Kuntz, John, Norristown. German Prayer Book. 1762.

Land, David C., Gwynedd. Treatise on Worms. By Ramsey. London, 1668. Treaties on Farriery. By Brocken. Dublin, 1762. Treatise on Anatomy. By Pole. London, 1790. Treatise on Farriery. By Taplin. Philadelphia, 1794. Treatise on Farriery. By Markham et al. Baltimore, 1797. German Psalms, and Grammar, late of Jacob Cassel, deceased, surveyor in Montgomery township; born in 1780.

Landes, Mrs. J. G., Norristown. German Bible. 1720. Singing Book, in German script. 1818. German Hymn Book. 1803. English Book. 1786. Receipt Book, which has been in the Landes family since 1700.

Lehr, Rev. F. P., Norristown. German Bible. Two volumes. 1683. Two German Books.

Leister, David, Douglass. Bible History. 1783.

Leister, H. F., Phoenixville. Works of Luther. The title-page is as follows: Der Sechste Theil der Bücher des Ehrwürdigen Herrn Doctoris Martina Luthert darinnen begriffen etliche Auslegung der Heiligen Schrift im neuem Testament, auch die Bücher vom Ehestand, Kaufschendle und Wucher, Vermanung und Trostschriften, Historien etlicher Merterer zu dieser Zeit, Antwort auf etlicher Fragen, Streitbücher, auch die Bücher von Weltlicher Oberkeit, nach Anzeigung des Registers, so nach der Vorrede verzeichnet. Wittenberg. [Here follows a large engraving, representing the crucifixion of Christ, and Luther and Melancthon kneeling in an attitude of prayer.] Gedruckt zu Wittenberg durch Lorentz Schwenck. 1570. This book contains 598 pages; its size is 13x8 inches; bound in boards, which are covered with parchment, adorned with various kinds of impressions, the most prominent of which are the representations of crowned heads. It was owned by John Yerger, Sr., who resided near the Swamp Creek, in New Hanover township, whose parents are supposed to have brought it from Germany.

- David R. Leister, of the same township, bought it at the executor's sale, and presented it to his son, the exhibitor, in 1862.
- Leister, Mrs. Jacob H.,** North Wales. Epistle and Gospel Lessons. 1717. Catechism. 1790.
- Lenhart, John,** Edge Hill. Psalms of David, in German. Switzerland, 1702. German Bible. 1765.
- Linsinbiger, Samuel,** Douglass. German Bible. 1776.
- Loeb, Jacob,** Shoemakertown. Bible. 1589.
- Long, J. S.,** Norristown. Sermons, delivered in London by Rev. Dr. Claget between A. D. 1677 and 1686. Published February 5, 1688. in London. A Collection of Poems, illustrated by steel engravings. Published in London, A. D. 1775. This includes several poems by Samuel Johnson, Richard Savage, and several other writers of lesser note. A Series of Dialogues and Letters. By James Hervey, A. M., London, 1755. The Works of Alexander Pope, Esq. With portrait of the author. Volumes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. London, 1789. Life of Captain James Cook. By Andrew Kippis. Basil, 1789. Families of Plants. Translated from Linnæus. Litchfield, England, 1787.
- Longstreth, Mrs. Sarah,** Collegeville. An Account of the Labors of John Churchman, of Pennsylvania. Printed by Joseph Cruikshank, 1799.
- Lower, George,** Flourtown. Supervisor's Book of Springfield township, commenced in 1765, and continued to the present time.
- Lownes, Charles,** West Point. Old Bible.
- Lukens, Abel and Seth,** Gwynedd. Bible and Family Record. Brought from Holland, in 1683, by Jans Lucken, who settled and died in Germantown. He was great-great-grandfather of the exhibitors. Bible and Family Record, English. 1754. Formerly of Abraham Lukens, who, about 1725, took up one thousand acres in Towamencin, of which Abraham S. Lukens, a descendant, still holds one hundred acres.
- Lukens, Mrs. Jawood,** Conshohocken. History of Josephus. Formerly owned by Edward Foulke, of Gwynedd. Barclay's Apology. Presented by David Barclay, of London, to John Nancarrow, of Marketjeio. 1770. Copy of first Public Ledger.
- McBride, Samuel,** Jenkintown. Bible.
- McClennan, Samuel R.,** Norristown. German Bible. Contains family record of Isaac Markley.
- McQuillan, Mrs.,** North Wales. Almanac. 1822. Life of Thomas Chalkley.
- Mann, Charles S.,** Horsham. A View of Religious Opinions. Written by Hannah Adams. No date. Dedicated to "John Adams, Vice President U. S." Formerly belonged to Rev. Isaac Stockton Keith, pastor of the Congregational Church, Charleston, S. C.
- Mann, John H.,** Horsham. A View of Religions. An alphabetical compendium of the various religious denominations which have appeared in the world since the beginning of the Christian era to the present day. By Hannah Adams. 412 pages. Printed in Boston. by John West Folsom, between 1789-97. This book formerly belonged to Rev. Isaac Stockton Keith, pastor of the First Congregational Church, Charleston, S. C., concerning whom see General Davis' History of Bucks County, Pa. Psalms, Carefully Suited to the Christian Worship in the United States of America. 310 pages, Printed in Philadelphia by W. W. Woodward. 1810. Deed for 164 acres and 30 perches, in Horsham, dated December 29, 1748, granted by Thomas Greene, carpenter, and wife, of Philadelphia, to John Mann, of Warwick, Bucks county. Deed for 150 acres, in Warwick, Bucks county, dated April 4, 1775, by Benjamin Rue, painter and glazier, of Bristol township, Bucks county, to Richard Gibbs, of Bensalem.
- Markley Freundschaft, The.** Family Register of Philip Markley, 1746 to 1764. Written by himself. Saur's Almanacs. 1763. 1765, 1771, 1772, 1775, 1800. Gruber's Almanac. Hagerstown, 1803. Herald of Peace (newspaper). By Henry Edner. Allentown, 1823. Guyon's History of India. 1749. Halle Bible. 1793. Family Bible of Isaac and Mary Markley. About 1770. Family Bible, belonging to Augustus G. Markley. 1738. Family Bible belonging to Jacob Kemper Markley. 1728. Markley Freundschaft Bible. Belonged to the original Jacob Markley and Barbara, his wife. Contains the records to the fourth generation. It is the Nuremberg edition of 1725, of Dr. Luther's translation. Illustrated Bills, &c., of Abraham Bertolet. 1784. The Advocate (newspaper). By John Boyer, Pottstown. 1821. Boehm's Consolation of Christ. 1661. Pilgrim's Progress. Ephrata, 1754. Frame, containing records, etc., of St. John's Episcopal Church, Norristown. By John Boyer, 1815. Frame. Containing deeds to Jacob Markley. 1728.
- Certificate of appointment of Philip Schwenk Markley to the position of Attorney General of Pennsylvania, by Governor Schulze, August 17, 1829. Quit Rent Receipt, 1732, by Penn the government to Jacob Markley. Bible, belonging to Josiah Markley. 1665. Copy and Writing Book of Jacob Kemper Markley. On the title-page is drawn an old Fashioned standing clock, remarkably well executed in colors—Record of Deaths of the Markley Freundschaft. 1798 to 1844. Invoice of Steel, purchased May 30, 1785, by Benjamin Markley, blacksmith (afterwards Associate Judge), New Hanover, of Samuel Baird, Pottstown. Order for twenty-five pounds of butter, given August 30, 1785, by Benjamin Markley on John Richards, Esq., merchant at New Hanover. Descendants of Jacob Markley, of Skippack. By Henry S. Dotterer. 1884.
- Mather, C.,** Jenkintown. Boston Gazette, 1770. New York Morning Post. 1783. Fac-simile of first paper published by Franklin in Boston. 1723. Original copy New England Journal. Boston. 1728.
- Mather, Lydia,** Penlyn. The Assessment for Whitpain township. 1763. The Whitpain township Duplicate for Road Tax. 1763. Supervisor's account of work done on the roads and highways of Whitpain in 1762. Petition of the citizens of Whitpain for the separation of the district from the township of Plymouth, "March ye 19th, 1763."
- Mather, Rachel,** Pittville. Patent for 300 acres in Cheltenham, dated 1684, by William Penn. Part of the tract is still in the family's possession.
- Mather, Penrose,** Jenkintown. Three Deeds. 1789, 1802, 1803. Sheriff's Deed. 1785. Patent from the State of Pennsylvania to James Snodgrass and Benjamin Watson, for land in Northampton County, signed by Andrew Ellicott, Secretary of the Commonwealth, in 1808.
- Mears, Mrs. Annie DeB.,** Milestown. Description of France, in German. 1856.
- Meschter, Dr. George K.,** Worcester. Twenty old Books.
- Meschter, John,** Mainland. Small German Bible. 1617.
- Metz, Jacob B.,** Norritonville. Works of Flavius Josephus. Volume 4. Glasgow, 1773. Draught of the Norriton plantation, consisting of 543½ acres of land and the mill tract, eighteen miles from the city of Philadelphia, and of that part of the Barbadoes islands in the River Schuylkill, containing 88 acres, lying opposite the said mill tract, showing the mills, mill dams, mill races, mill ponds, houses, barns, and other buildings in their proper places; the wood land being marked by blue lines, the fields by yellow lines, and the meadows by green lines. The whole premises, fast land and island, are offered for sale by public vendue on Wednesday, the 27th of February, 1771, at Archibald Thompson's tavern. The exhibitor's great-grandfather, farmed this property.
- Michener, Israel,** Hartrauff. Indenture of Apprentice. 1731.
- Mock, Jacob,** Frederick. Bible. 1783. Deed, dated October 12, 1681, conveying 5000 acres of land in Pennsylvania from William Penn to William Bacon.
- Mock, Mrs. Jacob,** Frederick. Hymn Book. 1787.
- Montgomery Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 57,** Norristown. Two Traveling Cards. 1834.
- Moore, Edwin,** Port Kenedy. Bible, 100 years old. Deed. 1709.
- Morgan, Abraham P.,** Jarrettown. Deed, executed 1699. Exhibited on account of penmanship as well as of age.
- Morris, Mrs. C. E.,** Spring House. Massachusetts Magazine. Volume 2. 1790.
- Moyer, Mrs. Charles,** Broad Axe. Two German Books. 1741 and 1762. Book, 200 years old.
- Moyer, Harry W.,** North Wales. Sermon Book, dated 1733. From the exhibitor's great-grandfather. Bible History, dated 1792.
- Nace, Mrs. Catharine,** Trappe. German Bible and Catechism. 1756.
- Naille, Miss Annie M.,** Royersford. Bible, 2 inches long. 1813.
- Nice, Mrs. Hannah,** Jenkintown. German Bible. 1747. Martin Luther's translation. Certificate of Confirmation: Commission in Bankruptcy, signed by Governor Thomas Keith. 1790.
- Nightlinger, Mrs.,** Shoemakertown. German Song Books. 1762 and 1763. German Prayer Book. 1792.
- Noble, Samuel W.,** Abington. Autograph Letter of Benjamin Franklin.
- Nuss, Charles,** Norristown. Zions Lehre und Wunder. By Dr. Conrad Mel. Cassel, 1746.
- Nyce, George S.,** Frederick. Almanacs for 1746, 1748 to 1753 inclusive, 1772, 1773. By Christoph Saur, Germantown. Geistliche Wächter-Stimme, wie solche aus den ordentliche Sonn und Fest-

- Tags-Episteln durch ganze Jahr in der Kirchen zu St. Thomas in Leipzig vorgehalten worden, von Emmanuel Horn. With portrait of the author. Leipzig, 1699. In two parts; the first has 1106 pages, the second has 742. Title-page printed in red and black, board covers, bound in black morocco, gilt edging, and ornamental brass clasps. A rare work. Two German Bibles. Germantown: Christoph Saur, 1743. Sermons by Rev. John Conrad Steiner, Reformed preacher in Philadelphia. Henry Miller, the Moravian printer, 1763. Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, in German. London, 1751. German Lutheran Hymn Book. Philadelphia: Ludwig Baisch, 1774. German Testament, Psalms, Catechism and Hymn Book, combined. Amsterdam, 1722. German Religious Work. Philadelphia; Anthony Armbrister, 1754. Belonged to the Hunsicker family. Doctrine of Mennonists' Church. By Menno Simon, its founder. Ratzburg, 1702. Release for 25 acres in New Hanover, dated May 28, 1740, by John Henry Sproggell, Sr., to Jacob Meyer. Deed of release for 200 acres in New Hanover, dated May 15, 1719, by John Henry Sproggell to Hans Senseman. Deed for 500 acres in Pennsylvania, not located, but to be surveyed, by Thomas Birchall to John Longhurst, dated July 25, 1685. Deed for 250 acres in Pennsylvania, dated May 23, 1682, granted by William Penn to John Longhurst. Patent for 50 acres in Frederick, dated January 20, 1736, from John, Thomas and Richard Penn to Michael Dotterer, bearing the seal and signature of Thomas Penn. Tripartite Deed for 121 acres in New Hanover, dated May 31, 1762, from Jacob and Elizabeth Meyer and Christopher and Elizabeth Bittenbender to George Nyce. Deed for a lot in Germantown, dated May 22, 1750, granted by William Streep to Andrew Campbell. Deed for 100 acres in New Hanover, dated June 7, 1734, from Hans Senseman and wife Agnes to Jacob Meyer. Five Deeds conveying various parcels of land, all written by Benjamin Markley. 1800 to 1807. Lease for 100 acres in New Hanover, dated March 5, 1736, granted by John Henry Sproggell to Jacob Fry. Will of Thomas Barber, made on the "27th of ye 7th mo. 1682," on board the ship Welcome, bound for Pennsylvania. He was late of Shipley, in the county of Sussex. His wife was the eldest daughter of John Longhurst. The witnesses to the will were George Thompson, Joseph Woodroffe, and Thomas Gillet. MS. Offer of eight dollars reward, by Andrew Ziegler, gaoler, for the arrest and return to the common gaol of Montgomery county of a prisoner who "broke gaol on Saturday night, the 7th inst." Dated Norriton, May 11, 1785.
- Nyce, Isaac**, Frederick. Release for 91 acres in New Hanover, dated May 26, 1735, by Jacob Meyer and wife to John Nyce and Henry Stetler. Lease for 91 acres in New Hanover, dated April 17, 1741, by John Henry Sproggell, Sr., to John Nyce, of Frederick. Deed for 37 acres in New Hanover, dated March 27, 1722, by John Henry Sproggell to Christian Jacobs. Lease for 37 acres in New Hanover, dated December 26, 1729, by Christian Jacobs and wife to Hans Adam Ax. Deed and Release for the foregoing, dated December 27, 1729. In this instrument the name "Nichin creek" is applied to the small stream now known as Minister's creek and Pfarrersbach. History of Romish Treasons and Usurpations. 1666. Old Account Book and Surveyor's Memorandum.
- Nyce, Mrs. Rachel**, Frederick. Reward of Merit, given to the exhibitor by her teacher on October 16, 1867. Artistic pen and ink work in colors.
- Owen Mrs. William W.**, Norristown. German Prayer Book. 17— Bible, with record of Norris family from 1600. Deed of part of Norris property. 1750.
- Paiste Robert**, Norristown. History of the People called Quakers. 1790.
- Pannepacker, Miss**, Klein's. Certificate of Birth and Baptism. 1792.
- Pawling, The Misses**, King-of-Prussia. Bible. 1784.
- Pawling, Mrs. Dr.**, Norristown. The Minstrel. A song book. 1828. The Wood Robin. A book of songs. 1822. Inscriptions from old graves at Burial Hill, Plymouth, Mass. Presented by H. B. Pierce, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- Phipps, Thomas**, Plymouth Meeting. Bible. 1642.
- Priest, Miss**, Trappe. Old Books.
- Pugh, Mrs. John**, Conshohocken. Ulster County Gazette, January 4, 1800. In mourning for the death of Washington.
- Quillman, Mrs. Philip**, Norristown. German Bible. 1750.
- Ralston, Miss A. L.**, Norristown. Advertisement or Hand-Bill, issued by the War Department, offering rewards for the arrest of Booth, Surratt and Harold, with photographs. Dated April 20, 1865.
- Ralston Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. An original Deed of William Penn. 1703.
- Ray, Henry T.**, North Wales. Letter from Henry Clay, written July 24, 1850.
- Ray, William T.**, North Wales. Philadelphia Class and Library Card, by exhibitor. Check System Library Register.
- Reed, Dr. W. H.**, Jeffersonville. Certificate of Postmastership, granted to M. H. Reed, of Skipackville, in 1832.
- Reiff, Joseph L.**, Ambler. Pennsylvania Gazette, February 8, 1792.
- Rex, Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. Docket No. 3. of John Wentz, Justice of the Peace of Whitpain township. 1803. Manuscript. A notice to the citizens of Whitpain to meet to take measures to purchase a lot of ground whereon to erect a public school. November 17, 1800. Western Gazetteer; or, Emigrant's Directory. Showing the progress of the country since 1817.
- Rex, Mrs. Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. French Testament. A gift from Samuel Sherwood, formerly of Norristown. First Catalogue of the Whitpain Library Company, dated April 16, 1818. Child's book: Little Emma and Her Father. Presented to Mrs. Rex forty-seven years ago by Mrs. Mordecai Moore. Curious for its colored plates, and is more ancient than Mother Hubbard.
- Rex, Mary S.**, Blue Bell. Valuable Secrets. By Evert A. Duyckinck. New York, 1800.
- Richards, Mrs. M.**, Norristown. Norristown Herald. 1812. Printed by Charles Sower. Life and Religious Labors of Sarah Grubb. One volume. 1794.
- Ridpath, J. W.**, Jenkintown. Jenkintown Newspapers, all extinct: Jenkintown Pestle, 1875-77; Penn Record, succeeded the Pestle, by purchase, in 1878; North Penn Express, 1778, the latter part of the year.
- Rittenhouse, Samuel**, Fairview Village. German Bible.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Fruit of Retirement. 1785. New England Psalter. 1785. Collection of Almanacs from 1759 to —, and 1838 to 1852. Ancient Testimony of the Society of Friends. Religious Tracts, 100 years. Landing of William Penn. Epistles and Testimony, issued by the Society of Friends. 1828. Economy of Human Life. 1786. Life of John Fothergill. 1753. Life and Travels of Job Scott. Life of Robert Barclay. 1830. Farmer's Boy. 1803. Farmer's Own Book. 1832. Poems. 1800. Life of Thomas Say. 1796. Testimony of Samuel Mand. 1730. Christian Religion. 1875. Divine and Heavenly Doctrines. 1822. Confession of Faith. Flowers of Autumn. 1820. Farmer's Cultivator. Farmer's Register. Decision of Court of Chancery. 1834. Life and Confession of Antoine Probst. Agricultural Encyclopedia. Premiums of the Board of Agriculture. 1800. Encyclopedia of Britannica. 1815. American Farmer. Two volumes. 1828. Account Book of Hugh Roberts. 1818. Sewell's History, old.
- Rogers, D. Ogden**, Norristown. Law Book, many years old.
- Rorer, Isaac**, Frankford. Patent for improvement in manufacturing gunpowder, dated August 10, 1791, signed by Washington, Jefferson, and Randolph. The first patent issued by the United States government.
- Ross, David H.**, Conshohocken. Ulster County Gazette, New York. 1800.
- Ross, Mrs. Henry P.**, Norristown. Holland Dutch Bible. Psalms. set to music; 150 years old. Bacchanalian Songs, set to music; 200 years old.
- Rowland, Lynford**, Cheltenham. Deed, dated March 16, 1681, for 250 acres, sold by William Penn, of Sussex, England, to Nehemiah Mitthoff. Deed, dated 16th of Tenth-month, 1689, for 200 acres, sold by William Penn to Samuel Carpenter, William Markham, Robert Ewinor, and John Goodson.
- Sassaman, Henry**, Frederick. Manuscript Book of Sermons of Rev. George Weiss, a Schwenkfelder minister, preached between the years 1732 and 1740.
- Scatterthwait, Edwin**, Jenkintown. English Bible, old.
- Schaeffer, Miss**, Norristown. Old Bible. History of the confession and execution of William Gross in 1820, with a written opinion in the case by the Judge.
- Schildt, Charles**, Worcester. Old Book.
- Schlater, Frank**, Broad Axe. Indenture Papers of Caspar Schlater, 1789. Deed from William Penn.
- Schultz, Amos**, Niantic. Acts of first session of first Congress. 1796. Natural Theology. German. 1732.
- Schultz, Mrs. J. K.**, Niantic. German Commentary on the Bible. 1570. Heavenly Balm. German. 15—. Conversation Lexicon. 1761.

Schultz, Solomon, Fairview Village. Testament.

Schwenk, Enos, Grater's Ford. German Bible. Nuremberg, 1747. Deed, 1780. Deeds of Schwenk property, in Perkiomen township, from 1807. Pamphlet. Report of Pennsylvania Canal Commissioners. Harrisburg, 1837. Pamphlet. Report on Cholera. Harrisburg, 1833. Pamphlet. Harrison Campaign. Report of the Young Men's Convention. Harrisburg, 1836. Norristown Herald and Advertiser, January 20, 1804. Norristown Herald and Free Press, July 1, 1840. Series of Providence township Deeds, of old date.

Schwenk, Samuel S., Schwenksville. Beauties of History. Volume 1. 1782. Bible. 1726.

Scott, Thomas P., North Wales. Works of William Penn. Two volumes. 1726. Prior's Poems. 1878. A fine copy of a rare book. Ainsworth's Latin Dictionary. 1751. Dodsley's Poems. Three volumes. London, 1770. Thomson's Seasons. 1790. The Evangelical Harmonie. Cambridge, 1634. The Adventurer. By Hawkesworth. 1760. Ross' Muses' Interpreter. By Alex. Ross. London, 1653.

Sechler, Rev. John H., Centre Square. Three copies of Johan Arnd's Wahre Christenthum. Philadelphia, 1751; Halle, 1760; Nuremberg, 1762. Two copies Psalms of David, Luther's translation. Germantown: Michael Billmeyer, 1796. Philadelphia: Henry Schweitzer, 1801. Twenty-three copies Heidelberg Catechism. Frankfort-on-the-Main, 1771; Steiner & Cist, Philadelphia, 1777; and others. Zinzendorf's St. Matthew's Gospel. Second volume. Barby, 1767. Work of Rev. John Wesley. Volume 1. Bristol, 1771. Fordyce's Sermons to Young Women. Volume 1. Dublin, 1768. Catechism. Philadelphia: Henry Miller, 1763. Life, Trials &c., of Francis Howgill. London, 1676. Life and Travels of John Fothergill. Philadelphia, 1754. Life and Travels of Samuel Bownas. Over 150 years old.

Shaneline, Jonathan, Abrams. Assessor's Book. 1791 and 1792. Shannon, George, Norristown. Bible. 1600.

Shannon, Mrs., Norristown. Almanac and Diary, 100 years old. Marriage Certificate. 1789.

Sharpless, Mrs. H. H. G., Shoemakertown. A Habeas Corpus. 1768.

Shaw, Mrs. John, Abington. Bible, embroidered cover. 1750.

Shay, John, Three Tuns. Aesop's Fables. 1783.

Shelp, Levinus, East Greenville. German Hymn Book, with notes, 1757.

Shoemaker, Enoch, Springfield. Shoemaker Family Bible. Edinburgh, 1762. Owned by the exhibitor. Deed for 100 acres in the manor of Springfield, dated 1709, from Thomas Tresse to John Henry Sprogell. Deed for 100 acres in the manor of Springfield, dated August 25, 1725, from Daniel Falkner, minister, of Germantown, to Johannes Michael Schutze, taylor, of New York city. Deed for 100 acres in the manor of Springfield, dated August 27, 1725, from Johannes Michael Schutze to William Fishbourne. Deed for 100 acres in the manor of Springfield, dated 1728, from William Fishbourne to Arent Hassert. Patent for 100 acres in the manor of Springfield to Arent Hassert. Deed for 100 acres in the manor of Springfield, dated 1755, from John Koster, of Germantown, to Henry Snyder. Deed for 20½ acres, dated 1737, by John, Thomas and Richard Penn to Henry Snyder.

Shoemaker, Hannah Y., Plymouth Meeting. Bible, dated 1759.

Shoemaker, Robert, Shoemakertown. General Advertiser, October 11, 1803. Almanac. 1760. This is the date of the birth of Martha Leech, the grandmother of the exhibitor. London Magazine. 1768. Life and Travels of Samuel Bownas. Philadelphia, 1766. Journal of Thomas Chalkley, 1749. Letters of Junius. 1771. In 1776 Robert Shoemaker, a Friend, grandfather of the exhibitor, when on his way to market in the city with provisions, was captured, it is said, and taken to the American camp at Germantown, and while there this volume was given to him. Sewell's History of the Quakers. 1774. Day Book or Journal of Richard Martin. 1773. Martin was a tanner and miller at Shoemakertown. The book is interesting, as it contains the names of many of the residents of the township of that date. Illustrated Bible. Zurich, 1571. This is a copy of, and the same date as, the Shoemaker Family Bible brought to this country by George Shoemaker, ancestor of the exhibitor, who landed at Chester in 1684, and settled in Cheltenham township. The old Shoemaker Bible is in possession of the widow of Samuel M. Shoemaker, of Baltimore. Three deeds for land in Cheltenham, dated 1720 and 1728.

Simmers, Joseph H., Three Tuns. Newspaper, dated 1800. In mourning for Washington.

Simpson, Thomas C., Norristown. Original Letter, written and signed by George Washington, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS, VALLEY FORGE, 15 March, 1778.

Sir—I yesterday rec'd a letter from Governor Wharton enclosing copy of one from you to the Council on the subject of keeping five or six Gallies manned for the protection of the upper part of the river. The Governor has very politely left the matter to my determination, but I would not wish to interfere in a Business which is out of my line any further than by giving my advice. I cannot help thinking now, as I did before, that should the Enemy come to the River, they will do it with a superior force, and certainly carry them. But Captain Huston thinks, with the assistance of a small work on shore, under cover of which they can run in case of necessity, that they may be protected. I would wish you to consult Governor Livingston and the gentlemen in the naval line upon this matter, and do what to you seems best. But you will not fail to secure the Guns and Stores of those Gallies that you stop, in the safest manner, until means can be fallen upon to carry them away.

I am, sir, your most obed't serv't,

Go: WASHINGTON.

Favor Capt. Huston, Review, March ye 17, 1778.

Slater, Mrs. Edmund, Pottstown. Bible, over 100 years old.

Slifer, Dr. H. F., North Wales. General History. 1619. Bible. Edinburgh, 1756. Bloomfield's View of the World. Two volumes. 1808. Ticket to Peale's Museum. No. 1972.

Slingsuff, Mrs. William H., Norristown. Gardener's Dictionary. London, 1759. Copy of first Public Ledger, Philadelphia. Watts' Hymns.

Smith, Alfred, Spring House. Newspaper.

Smith, Rev. O. P., Trappe. German Bible. Used by Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg at the beginning of his ministry at Trappe, 1742. Bible Dictionary of the German Law. 1611. First Record of the Lutheran Church at Trappe.

Snyder, Rev. George W., Jeffersonville. German Prayer Book. 1790.

Snyder, John H., Kulpville. Send-Brief. By Schwenkfeld. 1561.

Snyder, Mary W., Norriton. German Prayer Book. 1769. History of Pennsylvania. 1806. A Medical Work, in French. 1719.

Sower, Charles G. Philadelphia. This exhibit contains, among others samples of the publications of five generations of Christopher Saur, and his descendants. Zionischer Weyranches Hügel. Germantown, 1759. Holy Bible. Quarto. German. 1743. This was the first edition of the Bible in a European language printed in America. In 1763 it was followed by a second edition, and in 1776 by a third edition. The first edition of the English Bible, a small 12mo., was printed by Robert Aitken, in 1782. A quarto edition in English was not published until 1791, by Isaac Collins, of Trenton. Specimens of Sunday School Tickets, printed in Germantown in 1747. Journey from Babylon to Bethel. German. 1748. Broadside. German. 1748. This was a common mode of addressing the people at that time instead of by pamphlet. Thomas à Kempis. English. 1749. Germantown Newspaper, February 16, 1749. German. This newspaper was commenced in 1739, and continued by father and son forty years. Dissertation on Pure Love. 1750. The Everlasting Gospel. By Siegvolk. 1753. Grew on the use of Globes. 1753. Newspaper of April 1, 1754. German. Hymn Book. German. 1755. Newspaper of June 1, 1756. German. Spiritual Magazine, No. 3. German. This was the first religious periodical published in America. Way to the Sabbath of Rest. 1759. Observations on the Enslaving of Negroes. 1760. One of the earliest anti-slavery books published. Marburger Hymn Book. German. 1762. Reformed Hymnal, with music. German. 1763. An early example of music printed from movable type, in America. Holy Bible. Quarto. German. Second edition. 1763. Arndt's Paradise-Gärtlein. 1765. Die wandelnde Seele. 1768. Geistliches Blumen-Gärtlein. 1769. Schul-Ordnung. 1770. By Christopher Dock. This is a remarkable work on methods of teaching, proving that many so called modern methods were in practice at that early day. Hymn Book. German. 1772. English and German Book. Third edition. 1772. Ready Reckoner. Seventh edition. German. 1774. Ready Reckoner. English. 1774. Testament. Seventh edition. German. 1775. Holy Bible. Quarto. Third edition. 1776. Psalms of David. German. 1777. This was probably the last work printed by Christopher Sower. Luther's Catechism. German. 1777. Christopher and Peter Sower. Kunzie's

Gedichte und Lieder. 1778. Psalms of David. 1779. Samuel Sower. Ready Reckoner. 1793. Samuel Sower. Prophecies of the French Revolution. 1794. Samuel Sower. Poems of David. 1796. Samuel Sower. Norristown Gazette. 1799. This volume of the paper contains accounts of the death of Washington and of the funeral ceremonies held in various parts of the county. Funeral Oration, delivered before and published by Congress. 1800. Washingtoniana. 1800. This rare work contains a fine portrait of Washington. Ready Reckoner. 1801. Samuel Sower. Norristown Herald. 1811. Charles Sower. Lady Guion. 1812. B. W. Sower. Newspaper, "Engine of Liberty." 1813, 1814. Norristown Herald. 1816 to 1834. Carvier's Farrier. 1818. Digest of Laws of Pennsylvania. By B. F. Hancock. 1831. Norristown Musical Teacher. Several characters to represent the seven notes of the scale are used in this work. The original type was modeled and cast for the purpose. Sermons, in Latin. By F. Roberti. Printed in Venice four hundred and eleven years ago, about twenty-five years after books were first printed from types. Luther's Notes on the Galatians. Printed in Basel. 1525. Latin Bible. Printed before the Bible was divided into verses, at Cologne. 1527. Livy. Melancthon's copy, with notes in his own writing. Printed at Basel. Holy Bible. Luther's translation. 1564. This splendid work, in folio, contains about two hundred large engravings, all elaborately hand-painted three hundred and twenty years ago. It is believed to be unique in this country. Essays on Faith and Doctrine. By Luther. 1570. Printed at Frankfort. Commentary of John Calvin on the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to St. John. This is believed to be the first English edition of Calvin's works. 1584. Bible Concordance, in Hebrew, Greek, and German. 1718. Der Blutige Schau Platz, or Book of Martyrs. From the time of Christ to 1660. Printed in 1748. Christian Doctrine and Belief. 1769. Christian Prayers and Belief. 1770. Chronica Ephratensis. 1786. This rare work contains the chronicles of the Dunker Brethren in Pennsylvania. The book is much sought after. Justice of the Peace. 1750. One of the many books printed by Benjamin Franklin. A Work in Manuscript. Written in Pennsylvania. 1750. Funeral sermon in memory of Rev. Dr. Heinrich Melchoir Muhlenberg. 1788. Contains a handsome portrait of this eminent and learned clergyman. Thomas' History of Printing. 1810. Manuscript Proceedings of the Franklinian Polemic Society of Norristown. Of much local interest.

Sower, F. D., Norristown. German Bible. Germantown: Christopher Saur. 1743. The full title of this remarkable edition of the Bible is: Biblia, Das ist; Die Heilige Schrift Altes und Neues Testaments, Nach der Deutschen Uebersetzung D. Martin Luthers, Mit jedes Capitels kurzen Summarien, auch beygefügten vielen und richtigen Parallelen; Nebst einem Anhang Des dritten und vierten Buchs Esä und des dritten Buchs der Maccabäer. Germantown: Gedruckt bey Christoph Saur. 1743. This is the first Bible printed in this country in a European language. The 1st, 4th, 6th, 8th, 11th and 14th lines of the 1st or general title, are printed in red, the others in black; the title to the New Testament is in black ink; an ornamental headpiece 1½ inches wide extends across the page at the beginning of Genesis, and there is another ornamental headpiece at the commencement of Matthew; the other pages have each two black lines at the top, between which are printed the name of the Book, the number of the Chapters on the page and brief summary of the contents. The text is reprinted from the 34th Halle edition of Luther's Bible, more than one hundred errors in which are corrected. * * * The covers of the Volume are wood boards, each three-eighths of an inch thick, covered with calf, each board being further protected by fine brass rivets and two clasps. The edition consisted of about one thousand copies.—E. B. O'CALLAGHAN'S *American Editions of the Holy Scriptures*, Albany, 1861.

Psalms and Hymns. Germantown: Christoph Saur. 1762. Gesang Buch. Germantown: Christoph Saur. 1762. German Bible. Germantown: Christoph Saur. 1776. Robert Barclay's Apologie. Germantown: Christoph Saur. 1776. Certain Physiological Essays. Robert Boyle, London. 1661. English Bible. London. 1771. Contains a written Register of the Rutter Family, of Pottstown. Know your own Mind. A Comedy. London. 1788. Christian's Duty. Germantown: Peter Leibert. 1791. German Psalter Spiel. Germantown: Samuel Saur. 1792. The Miscellaneous Works of Dr. Arbuthnot. Glasgow. 1751. The Laws of the Province of Penna. Philadelphia: Andrew Bradford, Printer to the Province. 1728. Illustrations of the Burmese War. 1824. New Testament. Germantown: Michael Billmeyer. 1810. Laws of Penna. Compiled by B. F. Hancock. Norristown: D. Sower. 1831. German Book. 1570. Constitution and Bye-

Laws of the Washington Association of Montgomery County. Norristown: Printed for the Association by David Sower, Jr., 1818. A small-sized pamphlet of fifteen pages. The purposes of this Association are indicated in Article 2, Section 1, relative to the qualifications necessary to become a member: "No person shall be admitted to the right of membership unless he be a native born citizen of the United States, of the age of eighteen years or upwards, and publicly declare himself determined to support the same political principles our immortal Washington inculcated, and evidence a full and determined purpose to maintain and defend at every hazard, the rights and privileges so dearly purchased for us by our glorious ancestors."

The following members' names are printed in the pamphlet: David Acuff, Jacob Acuff, William E. Davis, Abraham Duffield, Isaac Ellis, Jonathan Ellis, John P. Farmer, Dr. Antrim Foulke, Charles Hammer, John Henderson, Nathan Holt, George W. Holstein, Joseph Hough, jun., Charles S. Iredell, Jacob E. Jarrett, Isaac Jenkins, Joseph Jarrett, Levi Jarrett, Tompkins Jarrett, Robert Kenderdine, Evan Lukens, John McCalla, Aaron Meredith, Levi Pawling, Daniel S. Reiff, Jesse W. Scheets, Daniel St. Clair, Jesse Shoemaker, Peter Snyder, Jonathan Snyder, Charles Styer, David Styer, Henry Styer, John Styer, John Slingluff, Andrew Shenline, Jona'n Shoemaker, David Thomas, Joseph Thomas, Samuel Thomas, Absalom Wilson, Andrew Wills, Dr. H. J. White, Thomas White, George Wirtzner.

Two Samples of Early Type Setting. 1. An advertising circular, fourteen by seventeen inches, set in ordinary type, and printed in five colors—black, blue, red, green and yellow; ornamented with skillfully arranged columns, scrolls and ovals, made with combination border type. In the centre is printed a Puzzle in verse, and at the bottom is given in four languages—Latin, English, French and German—the card of the printer, Samuel Sower, No. 190 Market Street, Baltimore, January, 1801. 2. Artistic specimen of ornamental typography, also executed by Samuel Sower, entitled: A Curious Piece of Antiquity on the Crucifixion of Our Saviour and the Two Thieves; printed in black, on a sheet about the same size as the foregoing; no date.

Spencer, Mrs. Ella, Jenkintown. English Bible, dated latter part of last century.

Stauffer, John M., Norristown. German Bible. Nuremberg, 1764. In the possession of the Ritter family since 1768.

Stevens, Henry A., Norristown. The Columbiad. An original copy of Joel Barlow's much-valued poetical National History up to the year 1807, the date of its publication. A similar copy was placed on exhibition under a glass case, at the State House, Philadelphia, during the Centennial, 1876.

Stewart, Mrs. Eliza, Abington. Poor Will's Almanac, 1809. A Help to Free and Accepted Masons, 1783. Account of the establishment of Hatborough Library, 1787. Pamphlet.

Styer, Aaron, Blue Bell. Boston Gazette, 1781. Contains an account of the Boston massacre.

Sunnyside School, Ambler. Law Book, 1722. German Prayer Book, 1762.

Suplee, Mrs. John, Swedeland. Old Deeds.

Swartley, Elias, Skippack. Die kleine geistliche Harfe. Auf Verordnung der Mennonisten Gemeinden. Germantown: Michael Billmeyer, 1863. On the front fly-leaf is a neat Fraktur-schrift design, in red and black, the lower part, heart-shaped, containing a verse of poetry, and the upper part, circular in shape, the words: Dieses Gesangbuch Gehöret dem Joseph Schwerdle zu Ihm zur Lehr und Gott zur Ehr. Schreiben Den 17ten Tag November im Jahr unsers Herin Jesu Christi, 1805.

Taggart, Mrs. William, Fort Washington. Bible. Relic of the Lincoln family.

Taylor, John, Lower Merion. Pennsylvania Gazette, September 7, 1758. Pennsylvania Ledger, March 28, 1778. Pennsylvania General Advertiser, November 18, 1779. Pennsylvania Evening Post, November 18, 1786. Columbian Observer, June 15, 1824. Norristown Herald, August 10, 1852 and November 29, 1826. American Sentinel, July 24, 1830.

Teas, George S., Three Tuns. Sewell's History of the Quakers. Printed in Burlington, New Jersey, by Isaac Collins, in the year 1774. A Collection of Memorials of Early Friends. Printed in Philadelphia, by Jos. Cruikshank, in the year 1787. The Original and Present State of Man, by Joseph Phipps, originally printed in London and reprinted in Philadelphia by Jos. Cruikshank, in the year 1783. Of the Imitation of Christ. Translated from the Latin of Thomas à Kempis, by John Payne. Printed in London. Reprinted

- in Philadelphia by Jos. Cruikshank, in 1783. Primitive Christianity, by William Penn, and Select Essays on Religious Subjects, by Isaac Pennington. Printed in Philadelphia by Jos. Cruikshank, in the year 1783. Life, writings, etc. of Madam Guion. Printed in the year 1754.
- Thomas, Elwood**, Upper Merion. Life of Thomas Story, 1747.
- Thomas, George W. H.**, Bridgeport. Three Deeds, relating to property of the Swedes in Upper Merion.
- Thomas, Mrs. Joseph**, Academy. Bible in the Welsh language The title-page to the New Testament is: Testament Newydd ein H. arglwydd Iesv Grist. Rom. 1, 16. Nid cywilydd genmf Efengyl Grist 'O bleg it gallu Duw yw hi ex icchyduriaeth i bobyn arfydd credu. Anno 1588. Deed, dated 1668.
- Towne, Miss Rosa**, Shoemakertown. Flora Londonensis. Two volumes, 1777.
- Tranckler, Daniel**, Spring House. German Lutheran Prayer Book. Basle, 1764.
- Traut, Louis**, Jenkintown. Bible. Barclay's Apology for the true Christian Divinity, 1737.
- Triol, Mrs.**, Jenkintown. Confession of Faith, 1773.
- Trucksess, David Sr.**, Providence Square. Deed of Norriton Church Ground, 1704.
- Tyson, Mrs. Benjamin**, Skippack. History of France.
- Tyson, B. F.**, Belfry. Old Bible. Old Book.
- Unruh, Mrs. Edward**, Weldon. German Prayer Book, 1790.
- Van Artsdalen, Dr.**, Ashbourne. Universal Gazetteer, 1799.
- Wagner, A.**, Collegeville. German Bible, 1763. German Book, 1794.
- Walker, Mrs. Abraham**, Upper Merion. Bible, 1627. Belonged to the exhibitor's grandfather, Thos. Amies, of Upper Merion.
- Walker, E. H.**, Jarrettown. Parley's Magazine, 1833.
- Walker, Howard**, Mont Clare. Consideration of our Latter End. 1776.
- Walker, Mrs. Jacob**, Blue Bell. Bible, 1705.
- Walker, Mary**, Belfry. Pilgrim's Progress. Boston: Joseph Bumstead, 1806. 16 mo., leather bound; has been in the Taylor family fifty years.
- Walker, W. C.**, Norristown. Common Prayer Book, 1792. English Bible, 1671.
- Walton, Eber**, Blue Bell. Life and Writings of Robert Barclay. Bible, 1813. Biography of John Griffith.
- Wampole, Dr. William H.**, North Wales. Complete Herb Book. German. 1687.
- Wanger, Geo. F. Price**, Norristown. Colonial Laws, etc. Printed by Franklin Martyn's Looking-Glass, in German. Printed by Conrad Beissel, for the Brotherhood, at Ephrata, 1749, on the press now deposited at the rooms of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Three Hymn and Psalm Books, printed by Christoph Saur, at Germantown. 'Proceedings IVth Congress, in book form, 1797. No Cross, No Crown. Written by William Penn. Book, printed by Samuel Saur or Sower. Four German Psalm Books. Printed by Billmeyer, Germantown. Sure Mercies of David, 1672. Christliche Glaubens-Bekentnis, Der Waffenlosen, und fürnehmlich in der Niederländern (unter dem nahmen der Mennonisten) wohlbekanten Christen. In Amsterdam, bey Johan-Paskovium, im Jahr 1664. (The Articles of Faith of the Mennonites). On the blank pages is a record of births in the Wanger family, as early as 1723. On a fly-leaf is written very plainly: Kost 18 bentz zu binden im grossen schwam. Ano 1734. Biblia. Issued at "Ulm, by Daniel Bartholomæi, 1714." Printed by Christian Ulrich Wagner. Contains a preface, with Latin notes, by "Johann Frick, S. Theol. Prof. und Pr. im Muenster." It was once owned by Richard Umstat; and on a blank page is recorded: Hennery Umstat, the son of Jacob Umstat, was born the 6 day of August in the year 1791. This Bible was presented to the exhibitor by his uncle, Jacob Saur Harley, of Dublin, Bucks county, who was a grandson of Chistoph Saur. Autograph Letter, dated June 23, 1784, from R. G. Potts, of Coventry, to Ruth Potts, of Pottsgrove. Der Frommen Lotterie, worin man nie verlieren Kann. Consists of 381 slips of paper, upon which is printed a verse from the Scriptures and a short stanza of poetry. Printed by Christoph Saur, of Germantown, in 1747. Geistliches Blumen-Gärtlein. To which is added 381 stanzas of poetry, written by Gerhart Tersteegen. Germantown: Christoph Saur, 1747. Love Feast Tickets. Receipt for Quit Rent. Patent for Land, dated 1761, from Thomas and Richard Penn. Patent for Land, dated 1734, from John, Thomas and Richard Penn. Pennsylvania Gazette, containing an account of Washington's death. Early Pottstown and Norristown Newspapers. Autograph of Jeff Davis, written on a slip of paper while he was confined at Fortress Monroe as a prisoner. Given by him to Capt. Jerome Titlow, Commander.
- Warner, John**, Worcester. Deed, 100 years old.
- Weber, Mrs. Eliza**, North Wales. Bible. From the Sellers family. United States Gazette, January 7, 1832. Contains Girard's will.
- Webster, Harris**, Horsham. Deed for 100 acres of land, dated 1735.
- Weikel, John**, Collegeville. Soldier's Memorial.
- Weinberger, Mrs. E. K.**, Collegeville. Denner's Sermon's containing samples of Ornamental Penmanship of that time. Frankenthal, on the Rhine, 1792. German Catechism. Germantown. 1790.
- Weatherby, Mrs. Joseph C.**, Hartranft. Pennsylvania Gazette. November 9, 1769.
- Wile, Jonas Sr.**, Fairview Village. Large German Bible, 1720.
- Williams, Elizabeth S.**, Pittville. Copy Norristown Herald, January 4, 1826. Marriage Certificate of John Williams, 1696. Marriage Certificate of Anthony Williams, 1736. Marriage Certificate of George Williams, 1780. Deed, 1705.
- Williams, Susan W.**, Pittville. The English Bijou Almanac, 1838.
- Williams, Thomas**, Pittville. Deed from Cunrad Cunrads and wife to John Williams, of Merioneth, for 132 1/2 acres in Cheltenham township, dated the 15th of the 12th-month, called February, 1716-7. This deed is in the handwriting of Francis Daniel Pastorius, and is witnessed by him. The land conveyed is now owned by the exhibitor.
- Wilson, Mrs. Dr. F. S.**, Jarrettown. Pennsylvania Gazette. Fac-simile, September 10, 1741.
- Wolf, George**, Plymouth. Part of Norristown paper, printed in 1814.
- Wolfe, Dr. Samuel**, Skippack. Dr. Martin Luther's Commentary on the Gospels. Jena, 1566. Medical Book, published "in the Savoy." 1712. Luther's Small Catechism. Germantown, 1826. Anatomist's Vade Mecum. Boston, 1801. Hamilton's Midwifery. Philadelphia, 1790.
- Wright, Mrs. William**, Conshohocken. Book, published by Benjamin Franklin, 1760. Lives of the Popes, 1688.
- Yeakle, Daniel**, Chestnut Hill. Book, 1777. Supposed to be the original story of Robinson Crusoe.
- Yeakle, Susan**, Flouertown. Book.
- Yeakle, William A.**, Flouertown. Letters written by imprisoned Schwenkfelders from 1650 to 1660.
- Yost, Henry**, Collegeville. Pennsylvania Gazette, Wednesday, December 12, 1798.
- Yost, Isaac F.**, New Hanover. Deed, dated April 4, 1729, Lawrence Sweitzer and wife to Philip Hawn, for 150 acres of land in Hanover township. Deed for land in New Hanover, dated December 14, 1734, by Lowrents Sweitzer to Philip Hann. Release, dated November 17, 1737, of John Henry Sproggell to Philip Hann, for 55 acres of land in Hanover township. Release of Thomas Preston to Philip Hahn, December 1, 1749, for 55 acres. Deed, dated November 12, 1751, by William Parsons and wife to Philip Hahn, for 55 acres. Deed of gift for 265 acres in New Hanover, dated April 25, 1761, from Philip Hahn, Sr., to his son, Philip Hahn, Jr. Release of George Hartzell and wife to Philip Hahn, October 29, 1765. Deed of Thomas Preston to Rev. Henry Muhlenberg, February 18, 1750, for 11 3/4 acres. Deed of Henry Muhlenberg and wife to Jacob Geiger, October 18, 1756, for 11 3/4 acres. Deed of Jacob Geiger and wife to Philip Hahn, November 15, 1758. Deed of John Richards and wife to Jacob Bickel, January 14, 1780. Release of Dorothea Hollobush and others to Adam Hollobush, April 1, 1775. Deed of Jacob Frack and wife to George Erhart, June 14, 1775. Release of Barnaby Barns to Thomas Jones, November 2, 1736, for a tract of 6 acres. Deed of Elizabeth Chandler to John Price, December 27, 1727, for 100 acres of land in Philadelphia county. General Washington's Will, July 9, 1799. Printed from the Record of the county of Fairfax, Va. Alexandria, 1800.
- Young, Miss Annie**, Lower Merion. Laws of Pennsylvania, from 1710 to 1790. Formerly used by Esquire Llewellyn Young, of Lower Merion.
- Young, Samuel, Sr.**, Norristown. Bible, 200 years old.
- Ziegler, Elmer R.**, Kulpville. Four Deeds, 1713 to 1743.
- Zimmerman, Esther**, Norristown. Sewell's History of the Quakers. One volume, 1774.
- Zimmerman, Sylvester**, Blue Bell. Old Deeds.

CLASS XIX.

MAPS.

- Bickel, John W.**, Norristown. New Historical Atlas of Montgomery county. Illustrated by J. D. Scott. 1877. Map of Vicinity of Philadelphia, including the whole of Montgomery county. By C. K. Stone and A. Pomeroy, 1860.
- Boorse, John C.**, Kulpville. Map or Plan of the lands belonging to the Towamensing Mennonite Society, made by the exhibitor showing the following purchases: 1764. August 27. Purchased 82 perches of land from Herman Godshalk, on which, in 1764, was built the first meeting and school house. 1798. June 16. Purchased 24 perches from John Boors, Sr. On this tract is erected General Nash's monument. 1799. June 29. Purchased 60 perches from Catherine Godshalk and Janicken Godshalk. The meeting house built in 1805 was erected on this tract. 1837. August 5. Purchased 114 49-100 perches from General Snyder. 1844. March 23. Purchased 46 perches from Abraham Godshalk. 1862. March 28. Purchased 102 perches from George Suyder. The present meeting house was erected on this tract in 1862. 1876. December 2. Purchased 40 perches from Elias Cassell. 1879. August 16. Purchased 1 acre from Jacob B. Moyer.
- Cassell, Abraham H.**, Harleyville. Scull's Map of Philadelphia, and parts adjacent, with perspective view of the State House. Operations near Philadelphia: being an Outline Map of the country, battle-fields, roads and streams which relate to the campaigns of 1776-78, from Elk river to Trenton, showing Philadelphia, Pennesbeker's Mill, Valley Forge, Germantown, Pottsgrove, Trudafflyn, Chadd's Ford, Whitemarsh, Yellow Springs, Methuchin Hill, Pali, Chestnut Hill, Barren Hill, Hatborough, Whitpain, Towamensing, Matson's Ford, Swede's Ford, Fatland Ford, Gordon's Ford, Parker's Ford, Warren, Warwick, White Horse, Marcus Hook, etc. Compiled and drawn by Henry B. Carrington, M. A., LL. D., Colonel United States Army, and author of Battles of the American Revolution. Size $7\frac{3}{8} \times 4\frac{3}{8}$ inches; on paper. No date.
- Conard, Ella V.**, Port Kennedy. Map of Europe, drawn in 1831 by Hannah Cowgill, when 15 years old.
- Detwiler, Jones**, Blue Bell. Map of Montgomery County, 18 x $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Published in 1827 by B. Tanner, Philadelphia. This map describes the Schuylkill river accurately in Montgomery County, from Unionville, Berks County, to Falls Bridge, Philadelphia, as surveyed by T. H. Gill, Esq.
- Evans, Mrs. Rachel**, Bridgeport. Map of Norristown, drawn ninety years ago.
- Fornance, Joseph**, Norristown. Map of township of Lower Merion, from original surveys by John Levering, civil engineer. 1851. Map of Montgomery County, from original surveys under direction of William E. Morris, civil engineer. 1849.
- Fox, G. R.**, Norristown. Map of the borough of Norristown, from actual surveys, by L. E. Corson, civil engineer. 1845.
- Historical Society of Montgomery County**, Norristown. Holmes' Map of Original Surveys, covering the county of Montgomery. Published in 1681. Slavery and Freedom Map of the United States.
- Hobson, F. G.**, Collegeville. Atlas of the County of Montgomery and the State of Pennsylvania, from actual surveys and official records. Compiled and published by G. M. Hopkins & Co., Philadelphia. 1871.
- Lower, George**, Flourtown. Map of Valley Forge encampment. Drawn on the ground by William Davis, one of the patriots of the Revolution.
- Mann, John H.**, Horsham. Map of the United States. 1849.
- Schaefer, Miss**, Norristown. Map of the United States. Hartford, 1835.
- Stiteler, Eva**, Gulf Mills. Map of Pennsylvania, drawn by exhibitor, when 10 years old.
- Taggart, Martha**, King-of-Prussia. Four maps, with frames, drawn by pupils of the exhibitor, viz.: Pennsylvania, by Sallie I. Barrett, May, 1884; Pennsylvania, by Mamie K. Anderson, May, 1884; Western Continent, by A. May Colehower, April, 1884; Eastern Continent, by Sallie I. Barrett, March, 1884.
- Thompson, Mary L.**, Jenkintown. County Map of Pennsylvania, in crayon, by Lettie S. Atkinson. Map of West Cheltenham township, in water colors, by J. C. Rennard.

CLASS XX.

OIL PAINTINGS, ENGRAVING, ETC.

- Adams, William W.**, Edge Hill. Wood carving. Tyrolese Dance.

- Atkinson, F. C.**, Norristown. Picture. The Spirit of the Union.
- Baeder, Miss Lizzie**, Jenkintown. Eleven photographs of Charles Baeder's residence and grounds.
- Bailey, Miss Sue**, Norristown. Two Oil Paintings of Roses, executed in 1844.
- Baker, Andrew H.**, Jenkintown. Photograph of National Bank of Jenkintown.
- Bartholomew, Mrs. F.**, Phoenixville. Oil Painting and Frame, made by one of the oldest inmates of the Montgomery County almshouse.
- Bergey, G. R.**, Skippack. Pen Drawing of the infant Jesus in the arms of his mother.
- Bickel, Mrs. E. B.**, Norristown. Picture of the Flood. Loaned by Mrs. Lohr.
- Bosler, Joseph**, Shoemakertown. The Old Mill at Shoemaker.
- Bradley, Francis**, Norristown. Lithograph of Norristown.
- Buck, William J.**, Jenkintown. View of Willow Grove, as seen from the north. Drawn by William J. Buck, July 22, 1843. Washington's Headquarters, near Whitemarsh. Drawn by William J. Buck in 1850. General Nash's Monument, near Kulpville. Sketched by the exhibitor in 1858. Drawing of the Montgomery County Poor House, made by the exhibitor in 1858. Drawing of a Wild Cat or Lynx, shot in Plumstead township, Bucks County, by Peter Lear, in February, 1844; drawn by William J. Buck. Sketch of an interior view of a farmer's kitchen, near Philadelphia, October 4, 1776, forming a scene in Henry Peterson's play of "Helen; or, One Hundred Years Ago," and performed in the Chestnut street theatre in February, 1876. Designed by William J. Buck, through the particular request of Mr. Peterson. Water Color Painting, executed by a German artist, ninety years ago, in the Buck family. Portrait of a woman. A view of Swede's Ford as seen from Norristown. Drawn by William L. Breton in 1828. An interesting sketch. Bird, designed from feathers; on paper. Fifty years in the Buck family.
- Butler, Mrs. Thomas**, Norristown. Two Oil Paintings, willed to exhibitor by her mistress at her death; over 100 years old.
- Cassell, Abraham H.**, Harleyville. Perspective view of the State House in Philadelphia. Fine wood cut; size of plate, 5×7 inches. Date about 1780. Residence of the late Anthony Benezet, No. 115 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. Drawn from the original by Roberts Vaux for William Strickland, architect, March 4, 1818. Presented to the exhibitor by John F. Watson, author of Annals, in 1858.
- Cassell, Mrs. James**, Belfry. Old pictures of Berlin. Steel engraving. Two pictures of Crucifixion, over 100 years old.
- Cope, O. W.**, Hatboro. Water Color, by Elizabeth Ferguson, the only daughter of Sir William Keith.
- Corson, Mrs. George N.**, Norristown. Sketch of Our Saviour in His Youth. Taken from a celebrated painting in London about eighty years ago; artist unknown.
- Cresson, Mary J.**, Norristown. Two Pictures, burnt on wood. Darby and Joan and the Rat Catchers.
- Cresson, William L.**, Norristown. Pictures, painted on brass; considered very old and rare.
- Davis, Edward M., Sr.**, Oak Lane. Four Photographs of the home of the late Charles Sharpless.
- Davis, Edward M. and Wife**, Oak Lane. Photograph of "Roadside," the home of James and Lucretia Mott.
- Eckard, Jane E.**, Abington. Painting on rice paper.
- Elkinton, Geogre**, Blue Bell. Steel engraving. Lady Elizabeth Gray Imploring Edward IV. 1780.
- Fornance, Mrs. Anne B.**, Norristown. Picture over 100 years old.
- Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox**, Norristown. Oil Painting. Pointer and Setter. By O. S. Spang, formerly of Norristown. Copied in 1854 for Col. Thomas P. Knox, from an engraving of a painting by Sir Edward Landseer. Prof. Spang's first order for a painting.
- Fornance, Miss Mary**, Norristown. Six Lithographs. Specimens of the exhibitor's own work.
- Freedley, Mrs. Dr.**, Conshohocken. Sicilian Group. Carving on wood.
- Garsed, Mrs. Robert P.**, Norristown. Colored engravings: Charity, 1797; Fortitude; The Wood Boy, 1799; The Cottage Girl, 1799. Engraving: Prudence, 1800.
- Gibson, Miss Delia P.**, Norristown. Paintings in Oil and Water colors.
- Griscom, Mrs. Joseph W.**, Jenkintown. Four Photographs of

- old mill below Ogontz, by amateurs. Three Photographs of York road bridge at Bosler's Mill.
- Hallman, A. S.** Norristown. Baby Group.
- Hamer, Miss Fannie V.**, Collegeville. Oil Paintings, by exhibitor.
- Hanaway, Mrs.**, Norriton. Oil Painting.
- Hanson, Miss**, Norristown. Crayon Head Designs.
- Heiss, Mrs. W. H.**, Philadelphia. View of the residence of Hon. John Linderman, at Zieglersville.
- Heysham, Robert**, Norristown. Photograph of old Norman coat-of-arms of Heysham family, dated 1500.
- Holstein, William H.**, Bridgeport. Copper-plate of Swedes' Ford, near Norristown. 1812.
- Homer, Samuel**, Norristown. Picture of Conflagration. Painted on glass; marked "L. P. Bortard fecit." Has been in possession of the family of Mrs. Homer since 1734.
- Jacoby, Nathaniel**, Norristown. Oil Painting. Mary Magdalen at the Foot of the Cross. Small Oil Painting on copper. Fleur de Maria.
- Jones, Mrs. Mary**, Bridgeport. Pictorial Scene, from P. B. Kersey, 1803.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Picture, Mercy's Dream.
- Kooker, Miss Bertha C.**, Trappe. Pencil Drawing. Pair of painted Panel Pictures.
- Lenzi, Anne C.**, Norristown. Four Pallets, decorated with flowers and landscapes.
- Markley Freundschaft, The.** Engraving of first railroad train run in Pennsylvania, drawn by locomotive "Ironside." John Markley, of Germantown, was engineer of this locomotive in 1842.
- Mather, Mrs. C.**, Jenkintown. Engraving of Philadelphia in early times. There are but four other copies, which are owned by the Historical Society of Philadelphia.
- Mears, Mrs. Anne DeB.**, Milestown. Picture of home of exhibitor, built in 1736. The DeBenneville homestead is located at the corner of York road and Oak lane, Milestown, Philadelphia County. It was built by Bernard Reasor in 1736, who occupied it for some years, when he was succeeded by his son, John Reasor. In April, 1755, it was rented to the great-grandfather of the present occupant, Dr. George DeBenneville, who came to America in 1741, and married in 1745 Esther Bertolet (Bertholet), daughter of a French refugee, who settled in Oley, Berks county, as early as 1726. DeBenneville lived in Oley fourteen years, practicing his profession, preaching and teaching. After his removal to Philadelphia county he devoted himself exclusively to his practice, as his reputation was well known. He resided here two years, when he purchased a farm of twenty acres at the corner of Green lane and York road, to which he removed. Here his youngest son, George, the grandfather of Mrs. Mears, was born November 10, 1760, and where he died December 20, 1850, in his 91st year, retaining every faculty to the last hour of his useful life. His widow survived him five months, dying on the 16th of May, 1861, being the sixty-ninth anniversary of their wedding day. In 1768 the Reasor house was offered for sale, when it was purchased by Dr. George DeBenneville for the sum of £400. The same year he planted one of the sycamore trees which now stand in front of the door. In 1781 he removed to this house, where he remained until his death, March 19, 1793; his widow remained in the house till her death, March 7, 1795. After the death of his parents, George, Jr., who had purchased previously of his father the (Reasor) home, removed here, and remained until 1828, when he retired into private life, relinquishing his practice to Dr. K. C. Shelmerdine, of Baltimore, who resided here fourteen years. In the spring of 1843, the house being vacant, Mrs. Mears requested of her grandfather the privilege of occupying the old home, to which he gave his consent; and now, for over forty years, it has been her home. This was the birth-place of her father and two of her children. They have passed the veil, and are at rest.
- The following obituary notice is from the Pennsylvania Gazette of March, 1793: "Departed this life, on Tuesday night last, at his farm, near this city, after a few moments of indisposition, Dr. George DeBenneville, Sr., in his 96th year. A man of high and universal esteem through life, and equally lamented in death."
- Daniel and George, sons of Dr. George DeBenneville, were both educated at the Thomas Roberts school, on Second street (now Feltonville), whose teachers were educated men, and whose reputation at that early day was appreciated by those who had sons to educate. They selected the profession of their father, and early commenced the study of that science under his care. Daniel was one of the early graduates at the University of Pennsylvania, and George completed his studies abroad. Daniel DeBenneville, the eldest son, was a surgeon in the Revolutionary war. He entered as Junior Surgeon of the Thirteenth Virginia Regiment on July 3, 1781, and was connected with the flying hospitals of the army of the United States. He died in August, 1829, in his 75th year. George DeBenneville was one of the most interesting men in conversation. His descriptive powers were perfect. He related frequently the incidents of his boyhood. The occurrences around his home, which he remembered of the Revolutionary period, would fill an interesting volume. The admiration and respect he held for Washington were unbounded. Whenever they met the most cordial feelings were exchanged. He was present when Washington delivered his farewell address to Congress. Of this he never spoke without deep emotion. When Washington died, he mourned as a friend, and he often gave his thoughts in writing, some of which are preserved.
- Miller, Mrs. Matilda**, West Point. Old Picture.
- Morgan, Mrs. David**, Merion Station. Picture of Market street bridge, Philadelphia. Colored engraving. Penn's Treaty Tree.
- Nyce, George S.**, Frederick. Wood cut of the residence of the late Adam Slemmer, while a teacher in New Hanover about sixty years ago. Drawn by the exhibitor from memory after a lapse of thirty years.
- O'Bryan, Mrs. J. Duross**, Ardmore. Picture, from France. Ecce Homo.
- Perry, Miss Bella**, Norristown. Painting.
- Pomeroy, Mrs. H. S.**, Norristown. Declaration of Independence. It is encircled by pictures of Washington, Jefferson and Adams, and the coats-of-arms of the thirteen original States. Printed by Moser & Peters, Carlisle, Pa., in 1826.
- Ramsey, Miss Sallie W.**, Swedeland. Picture of burning of the Richmond theatre, in 1811. Formerly owned by Nancy Brooke, wife of James Brooke.
- Rice, A. J.**, Jenkintown. Engraving of Rice's new mill, 1883. Rice's mill, near Jenkintown, was built by ——— Knight in 1715, 24x24 feet; enlarged in 1812 to 24x36; enlarged in 1840 to 24x64; improved to roller mill in 1883. Came in possession of Daniel Rice in 1859. A. J. Rice, the present owner, succeeded his father in 1880.
- Richter, Frank C.**, Ashbourne. Water Color of Roland's mill dam, after being torn down by a freshet, showing pre-historic dam under the other stone work. Oil Painting of Cooke's old mill; believed to be pre-Revolutionary. Oil Painting of stone bridge over Tacony creek, at Shoemakertown. The first photograph taken in Philadelphia. View of Exchange Building. Taken by Langenheim, then situated on Dock Street, who had patent right from England.
- Roberts, Charles**, Philadelphia. Sketch of residence of Joseph Roberts.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Picture of Joseph Roberts' barn. Dated 1781.
- Rorer, Isaac**, Frankford. Oil Painting of the Rorer homestead, Cheltenham. By X. Smith, 1859.
- Sharpless, Mrs. H. H. G.**, Shoemakertown. Declaration of Independence, in bronze.
- Slifer, Dr. H. F.**, North Wales. Iron Relief Picture of St. John the Evangelist. Oil Painting of the human brain.
- Slingluff, Mrs. William H.**, Norristown. Colored Print of the canal in St. James' Park, London.
- Smith, Mary** (deceased). Exhibited by Russell Smith, her father, Weldon. Oil Painting. Charles F. Wilson's Rooster. Miss Smith, the daughter of Russell Smith, of Abington township, was born in 1842, and died at the age of upwards of 30. She was a resident of Montgomery County during all her art-life, in which she painted and sold three hundred pictures. Concerning the celebrated portrait of Charles F. Wilson's Rooster, we make the following extract from her biography: "On one occasion, when the sitter was shown his portrait, he at once, with bill and spur, made a most determined assault upon it; and the study still shows the gashes about the head while the paint was soft." Oil Painting. The Unwelcome Visitor. An opossum intruding upon the rabbit's feast. Oil Painting. Chickens and Cherries. Oil Painting. Ground Squirrel and Turtle.
- Smith, Russell**, Weldon. Oil Painting. Stone Bridge over Pennypack, at Hallowell's mill. Oil Painting. Juliann's Cave, near Jenkintown. Juliann's cave was a favorite resort of Juliann Kirkbride, a literary lady of the early part of the present century. She resided with Charles Shoemaker, in the present residence of Joseph Bosler, near Shoemakertown.

- Smith, X.**, Weldon. Oil Painting of Rice's mill, 1860. Photograph of Rice's mill, 1880. Oil Painting of dam at Jenkintown; a very old water right. Photograph of Walton's mill. Photograph of rocks near Juliann's cave, Cheltenham; side view. Photograph of rocks near Juliann's cave; front view. Photograph of Juliann's cave, 1880.
- Sower, Miss Carrie**, Norristown. Six Water Colors. By the exhibitor, a great-great-granddaughter of Christoph Saur, of Germantown.
- Sower, F. D.**, Norristown. Copper-plate Engraving. 1719.
- Spencer, Mrs. Ella**, Jenkintown. Old Schuylkill Bridge. Old Mission House, Santa Barbara, Cal. Oil painting on stone. Section of Bamboo. Japanese wood carving.
- Stauffer, John M.**, Norristown. Two pictures: Capture of Major Andre, 1780; Reception of Washington at Trenton, 1789.
- Stewart, Mrs. R. T.**, Norristown. Sketch in India ink. Political hits in the Polk campaign, done by Mrs. M. G. Huddleson. Head of Queen Esther, 75 years old.
- Stinson, Miss Agnes**, Norristown. Four Oil Paintings, 64 years old.
- Tripler, Mrs. Jacob L.**, Norristown. Proof copy of Franklin at the Court of France. Two Oil Paintings. By Lulu Tripler, a girl of 13. 1884.
- Tyson, Sarah H.**, King-of-Prussia. Series of original Paintings, in water colors, by a child named — Murray, aged 8 years.
- Weinberger, Mrs. E. K.**, Collegeville. Pen and Ink Drawings, from 17—to 1835.
- Wentworth, Mrs. George B.**, North Wales. Oil Painting. 1795.
- Williams, Mrs.**, Trappe. Picture.
- Yeakle, William A.**, Flouertown. Photograph of log cabin, built in 1743; still standing.
- Zearfoss, Mrs. Horace**, Fairview Village. Oil Painting. Gordon Girls.

CLASS XXI.

PORTRAITS.

- Beitenman, J. A.**, Bridgeport. Portrait of Dr. George Frederick Beitenman, grandfather of the exhibitor. Dr. Beitenman was born August 23, 1754, in Falkner Swamp, and married Maria, daughter of Matthias and Margaret Reichert, June 1, 1779. He was a physician of large practice and a citizen of great influence. He resided in Douglass township, and died September 16, 1826. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war for a short period.
- Bergey, G. R.**, Skippack. Picture of General Washington, representing him standing in his tent, with a copy of the Declaration of Independence unrolled in his hand. Supposed to have been the work of a German traveling artist, of several generations back, who is known only by his Christian name of Thomas.
- Buck, William J.**, Jenkintown. Steel engravings of Governor Keith, Mrs. Graeme, Miss Stedman, and Mrs. Ferguson. Privately printed.
- Cassel, Abraham H.**, Harleysville. Picture and Sketch of George B. Kulp, Esq. Engraved portrait, accompanied by a historical and biographical sketch. 1880. George Brubaker Kulp is a descendant of the Kulp, of Kulpville. He was born in Lancaster County, whither his father, Eli Kulp, removed. He is now a resident of Wilkesbarre, an eminent member of the bar of Luzerne county, was for a short time editor of the Luzerne Union, and is at present editor of the Luzerne Legal Register. He is the author of several books on law, has held important public offices, and has been instrumental in establishing institutes of learning. Portrait of Horace Greeley. Large picture, of fine workmanship, representing the famous editor in the attitude of reading the Tribune. Portrait of Rev. Michael Schlatter. Steel engraving. 1847. Schlatter was one of the first missionaries and founders of the German Reformed Church in the United States. He landed at Philadelphia in 1746, was an ardent patriot during the Revolution, and died at Chestnut Hill in 1790. Portrait of Prof. Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph; a large, beautifully executed steel engraving.
- Cassin, William**, Philadelphia. Picture of William Penn. Taken for the American Universal Magazine.
- Coltman, Robert**, Jenkintown. Portrait.
- Corson, Elwood M.**, Norristown. Miniature of Washington, painted on ivory.
- Corson, Dr. Hiram**, Plymouth Meeting. Portrait of himself, painted by his friend and school-mate, Samuel Moon, of New Hope, in 1830, when Dr. Corson was 26 years of age. This was one of the earliest efforts of Mr. Moon, who subsequently became very celebrated as a portrait painter. The celebrated artist, Thomas Hovenden, who painted the famous picture "Last Moments of John Brown," pronounced this portrait a specially well executed one.
- Davis, Miss Bertha**, Norristown. Portraits of Dr. Mears and Mrs. Dr. Mears. 1793.
- Davis, Edward M.**, Oak Lane. Portrait of Robert Collyer.
- Davis, Edward M., and wife**, Oak Lane. Photograph of Lucretia Mott.
- Davis, John J.**, Jenkintown. Silhouette of Hon. Thomas Ross, father of the late Judge Henry P. Ross. Silhouettes of James and Mary Langdale. Silhouettes of a young lady and girl.
- Day, Mrs. Richard H.**, Philadelphia. Portrait in chalk of John Nancarrow, Jr.
- Earle, Mrs. Sallie**, Norristown. Dr. Duncan's Portrait. 1827.
- Evans, Mrs. Rachel**, Bridgeport. Portrait of the late Elisha Evans.
- Fornance, Mrs. Anne B.**, Norristown. Daguerreotype of Hon. Joseph Fornance. Taken in 1843, at Washington, D. C., while a member of Congress from Montgomery County. Miniature Portrait on ivory. Painted by exhibitor. 1836.
- Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox**, Norristown. Portrait of "John Sober, Gent.," of Philadelphia, born in 1740, and died in 1781. Portrait of Sarah Twining Leedom, great-grandmother of the exhibitor.
- Fretz, Jonas**, North Wales. Profile of Christian Clemens and wife, executed eighty years ago by John Stelciner.
- Groff, Samuel**, Shoemakertown. Silhouettes of Henry and Barbara Nicholas. 1809.
- Hallman, A. S.**, Norristown. Engraving. Group of authors.
- Hallowell, Elizabeth**, Jenkintown. Portrait of Isaiah Lukens (born August 24, 1779; died November 12, 1840), who made the Loller Academy clock.
- Hallowell, Lizzie**, Huntingdon Valley. Portrait of Benjamin Lay.
- Harvey, Mrs. J. J. C.**, Jenkintown. Photograph of Robert Steel. D. D. Born near Londonderry, Ireland, January 9, 1794; came to America, 1811; graduated at Princeton College; pastor of Abington Presbyterian church from 1819 until his death, which occurred September 2, 1862.
- Heller, Miss Clara**, Norristown. Three Portraits, over 100 years old.
- Heller, George K.**, Cheltenham. Picture of Benjamin Lay.
- Henry, Mrs. Rachel**, Germantown. Two Daguerreotypes.
- Heysham Robert**, Norristown. Portrait of Ann Stuart, over 75 years old. Profile Picture of Major William Heysham, 100 years old.
- Hilles, Lizzie**, Port Kennedy. Portrait of Annie Moore. Painted by Elizabeth Richards.
- Hovenden, Mrs. Helen C.**, Plymouth. Portrait of Dr. William Corson, Norristown. Oil painting by the exhibitor, niece of Dr. Corson; painted in December, 1880.
- Jones, Mrs. Rachel**, Broad Axe. Silhouette Picture.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Portrait of William Penn.
- Kirk, Edwin**, Neshaminy. Picture of George Fox.
- Kohl, George M.**, Jenkintown. Photograph of Nicholas Kohl Born at Curly Hill, Plumstead township, Bucks County, 1790; died August 27, 1866. Profile of Sarah Pickering, who married Israel Michener in 1786.
- Landes, Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. Engraving of President Buchanan. By Sartain.
- Lane, Miss Rebecca**, Bridgeport. Engraving of George Washington. Engraved by James Heath, Historical Engraver to His Majesty and to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, from the original picture in the collection of the Marquis of Lansdowne, painted by Gabriel Stewart in 1791. Purchased new in 1805, by the exhibitor's grandfather, Jesse Roberts, of Norristown, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary army, serving under General Washington, and who considered it a most striking likeness.
- Leech, Mrs. Esther**, Shoemakertown. Picture of the Rt. Hon. Robert Clayton, Kt., Lord Mayor of London. 1680.
- Lee, Mrs. William**, Port Kennedy. Portrait of Rachel Dewees, wife of Captain Bartholomew, and granddaughter of Thomas Potts; born at Valley Forge. Portrait of Captain B. Bartholomew, an officer of the Revolutionary war, and great-grandson of George Bartholomew, of the Blue Anchor.
- Leister, J. Harry**, Phoenixville. Lead Pencil Drawing of James A. Garfield.
- Linson, Charles M.**, Ashbourne. Likeness of Gilbert Linson. 1814.

- Lukens, Mrs. Jawood**, Conshohocken. Miniature, on ivory, of Thomas Rutter, born in 1790. Water Color Portrait. Mrs. Owen Jones, second, Wynnewood. Water Color Portrait. Mrs. Sarah Rutter, framed in old leather. Portrait in Oil. Owen Jones, of Wynnewood, Colonial Treasurer of Philadelphia. Loaned by his great-granddaughter.
- Markley Freundschaft**, The. Oil Portrait of John Markley, of Norristown. Collector of distillery taxes, Register of Wills, Recorder of Deeds, and Sheriff in 1794. By Eicholz, 1824. Oil portrait of Philip Schwenk Markley. District Attorney, 1820; State Senator, 1819 to 1824; member of Congress, 1824 to 1828; Attorney General of Pennsylvania, 1829. By Eicholz, 1824. Water Color Portrait of Jacob Renninger, 1820. A noted school teacher of Montgomery county. Water Color Portrait of Veronica Renninger, 1820. The wife of Jacob Renninger. Oil Portrait of John Boyer, formerly President of Bank of Montgomery County, and Mary Markley, his wife.
- Mather, Mrs. Annie M.**, Jenkintown. Portrait of George Bates. 1877.
- Mather, C.**, Jenkintown. Portrait of John Mather (born 1776). By Bass Otis. Portrait of Martha P. Mather (born 1786). By Bass Otis. She was a daughter of Zebulon Potts, a Captain in the Revolution, and first Sheriff of Montgomery County. John and Martin P. Mather were the exhibitor's parents.
- Mauck, Mrs. Helen**, Conshohocken. Miniature, on ivory, of Miss Jane Kenney. Loaned by her granddaughter.
- Mears, Miss Annie DeB.**, Milestown. Picture of Benjamin Lay.
- Miles, Mrs. William**, Ardmore. Portrait of Elizabeth Diehl, painted by hand in 1805. Portrait of Judge Richard B. Jones, painted when 21 years of age, at that time midshipman in the navy. He was taken prisoner to Algiers; afterwards Consul to Algiers, and Minister to Tripoli. While Judge of Montgomery county he owned and resided at Brookfield farm, in Lower Merion, now the property of Hon. Wayne MacVeagh.
- Miller, Samuel**, Jeffersonville. Profile of Mary E. Gable, cut in Philadelphia in 1827.
- Mogge, Miss**, Norristown. Portrait of Hon. John Freedley.
- Naille, Miss Annie M.**, Royersford. Very ancient Portrait.
- O'Neill, Mrs. James**, Norristown. Two Portraits, in oil, over 50 years old.
- Painter, Mrs. William**, Norristown. Picture of Capt. John Douglass.
- Pechin, John W.**, King-of-Prussia. Portrait of Mrs. Ann Pechin. King George III. Painted March 5, 1773. Queen Charlotte.
- Pomeroy, Mrs. H. S.**, Norristown. Oil Portrait of Hon. Adam Slemmer, father of the exhibitor. Painted in 1830 by J. Jay Gebhard, at Harrisburg, while Mr. Slemmer was a member of the State Legislature from Montgomery county; and when he was in the 39th year of his age. Silhouettes of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Slemmer.
- Rambo, J. R.**, Norristown. Crayon Portrait of R. Roberts Rambo.
- Ramey, Miss S.**, Norristown. Silhouette of Jacob Ramey.
- Roberts, Charles**, Philadelphia. Portrait of Charles Roberts, grandfather of the exhibitor, born in Gwynedd in 1774; member of Assembly in 1822. Photograph of Septimus Roberts, born near Gwynedd September 30, 1786; died at Mauch Chunk January 6, 1826. From a sketch by one of his pupils. Photograph of Solomon W. Roberts, Chief Engineer of the Pennsylvania railroad. Born Eighth-month 3, 1811; died Second-month 22, 1822. Also large sketch of same. Sketch of Joseph Roberts, Jr. Born March 22, 1793; died August 25, 1835.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Picture of Joseph Roberts, late Actuary of the Pennsylvania Company for Insurance on Lives and granting Annuities. Born March 22, 1793; died August 25, 1835.
- Roberts, Willis R.**, Norristown. Oil Painting. Portrait of William M. Jamison, painted when 9 years old, formerly owner of cotton mills in Norristown; died in 1862.
- Royer, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Trappe. Photograph of Mrs. C. De-wees.
- Shainline, Jonathan**, Abrams. Old Portrait.
- Shannon, Mrs.**, Norristown. Portrait of General Andrew Porter. Born in Worcester, September 24, 1743; died November 16, 1813.
- Slingluff, Mrs. W. H.**, Norristown. Portrait of the late William H. Slingluff when 18 years old.
- Smith, Joseph**, Jenkintown. Four Photographs.
- Smith, Messrs.**, Norristown. Two Portraits, painted on wood; over 100 years old.
- Spencer, Mrs. Ella**, Jenkintown. Portrait of Elias Hicks.
- Springer, Daniel**, Royersford. Pictures of the late Wright A. Bringhurst.
- Stevens, Henry A.**, Norristown. Oil portrait of Washington. Copy of Stuart's original, done at Philadelphia in 1794, in the studio and under the care of the celebrated master, by one of his students.
- Stewart, Mrs. Eliza**, Abington. Picture of Dr. William Tennent. Very rare.
- Taney, H. D.**, Norristown. Portrait of James Winnard, first editor of the Norristown Register.
- Traut, Lewis**, Jenkintown. Silhouette of Caroline Bane. 1784.
- Tripler, Mrs. Jacob L.**, Norristown. Likeness of General Andrew Jackson. Executed at the Hermitage, by Justice E. Moore, December 28, 1841.
- Tyson, Sarah H.**, King-of-Prussia. Portrait, in oil, of Matthew Roberts; over 50 years old. Portrait, in crayon, of Hon. Jonathan Roberts. Portrait of Eliza H. Roberts, wife of the preceding. Portrait of Mordecai R. Moore.
- Weinberger, Mrs. E. K.**, Collegeville. Silhouette Portraits of Philip Kratz, Jr., and Jacob S. Kratz, grandfather and father of the exhibitor. 1812. Philip Kratz, Jr., married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Jacob Hover, in June, 1802, and settled on what is now known as the Valley Park farm, near Plumsteadville, Bucks county, being part of a tract owned by his father, Philip Kratz, Sr., whose father, a native of Switzerland, settled below Summeytown. Jacob S. Kratz, the eldest son of Philip Kratz, Jr., married Elizabeth, the youngest daughter of William Fretz, of Bedminster, Bucks county, and owned part of his grandfather's tract of land until about 1861. He now lives with his son-in-law, Prof. J. Shelly Weinberger, on Glen farm, near Collegeville.
- Williams, Elizabeth S.**, Pittville. Photograph of Benjamin Hallewell.
- Wilson, Mrs. Dr. F. S.**, Jarrettown. Portrait of Levi Fry, grandfather of the exhibitor. Painted by Alfred B. Street, in 1804.
- Wolf, Mrs. Anstina**, Plymouth. Profile of Mary, wife of Jacob Deweese, living near Barren Hill at the time Lafayette had his soldiers in the church there, more than one hundred years ago. Exhibited by a grand-daughter.
- Yeakle, S. Y.**, Norristown. Portrait of Caspar Schwenkfeld. 1562.
- Yeakle, William A.**, Flourtown. Photograph of Caspar Schwenkfeld, made from a steel engraving.
- Young, Miss Margaret**, Trappe. Photograph of Mrs. Moser.

CLASS XXII.

VIEWS OF CHURCHES AND SCHOOL HOUSES.

- Baker, Andrew H.**, Jenkintown. Photograph of Jenkintown school. Photograph of Grace Presbyterian church.
- Buck, William J.**, Jenkintown. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Whitemarsh; a southeast view. Drawn by the exhibitor in 1857. A Drawing of the old Goshenhoppen church, made by William J. Buck, March 25, 1858. This building was torn down that spring.
- Crocker, Samuel**, Horsham. Picture of Mooretown Presbyterian church; old building.
- Dern, Miss Mary E.**, Jenkintown. Ashbourne public school house. Photographs of the interior of Episcopal church and of parish school house, Jenkintown.
- Dotterer, Henry S.**, Philadelphia. Stereoscopic Views, photographed for the exhibitor: School house at New Hanover Square. Bertolet Mennonite meeting house. New Hanover Lutheran church. Old Lutheran parsonage, New Hanover. Falkner Swamp Reformed church. Keeler's church, Frederick. Old Lutheran church, Trappe. Old Lutheran church, Trappe; interior view. New Lutheran church, Trappe. New Lutheran church, Trappe; interior view—font, pulpit etc., etc. German Reformed church, Trappe. Episcopal church, Evansburg. Providence Friends' meeting house. New Goshenhoppen Reformed church, Pennsburg. New Goshenhoppen Lutheran church. (Die sechseckig Kirche.) Roman Catholic church, Churchville. Schwenkfelder church, near Fairview. Now replaced by a new building. Lower Mennonite meeting house, Skippack. Schwenksville Mennonite church. Old Goshenhoppen church. Frederick Institute, in Frederick township. This institution of learning was conducted from 1855 to 1869 successively by C. F. Guldin, A. M., Rev. A. S. Vaughn, Rev. Charles Radford, Rev. Prof. M. A. Richards, Rev. L. C. Sheip, Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, Prof. A. P. Suplee, and Rev. F. T. Hoover. Among its pupils during this period, who have since filled professional and public positions, were: J. Wright Apple, Esq., ex-District Attorney of Montgomery county; Rev. George B. Dechant, Catawissa, Pa.; Dr. Jonathan Faust, Zieglersville; Dr. A. N. Fegley, Spangville, Pa.; Rev. Henry N. Fegley, Mechanicsburg, Pa.; Dr. Philip Fisher,

Bellefonte, Pa.; Rev. Josiah B. Fox, Emlenton, Pa.; Rev. William B. Fox, Sunnyside, Pa.; Rev. N. B. Grubb, Philadelphia; Rev. S. M. K. Huber, Skippack, Pa.; Prof. H. G. Hunter, Birdsboro, Pa.; Rev. Charles Keeler, Missouri; Amos K. Kepner, Adjutant of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Regiment United States Infantry, C. T., Quartermaster and Commissary at Fort Bayard, N. M. (built Fort Bayard while stationed there, since December 31, 1867, a merchant in Philadelphia); Rev. Daniel K. Kepner, Pottstown, Pa.; Dr. Septimus A. Knipe, New Hanover, Pa.; the late Prof. Levi M. Koons, Boyertown, Pa.; Rev. William Landis, Beaver Springs, Pa.; Dr. Thomas H. Leidy, Boyertown, Pa.; Prof. Henry F. Leister, Phoenixville, Pa.; Rev. J. G. Neiffer, Lima, O.; George S. Nyce, D. D. S., Frederick, Pa.; Hon. Samuel E. Nyce, ex-member of the Legislature from Montgomery county; Rev. Josiah S. Renninger, Slatington, Pa.; the late Rev. Ephraim A. Sheip, Rebersburg, Pa.; Rev. L. C. Sheip, Doylestown, Pa.; J. M. Shellenberger, ex-District Attorney of Bucks county; Rev. B. S. Smoll, Klinesville, Pa.; Rev. D. M. Stetler, Beavertown, Pa.; Rev. Zwingli A. Yearick, Aaronburg, Pa.; Prof. J. E. Yoder, Supervising Principal of the Freedman's Schools at Lynchburg, Va.

Eckard, L. W., Abington. Picture of Presbyterian church, Abington; old building. The church was founded in 1714. Picture of Presbyterian church, Abington; new building.

Fleck, Mrs. George, Jenkintown. Photograph of Episcopal church, Jenkintown.

Holstein, Dr. George M., Bridgeport. Two Photographs of Swedes' church.

Mears, Mrs. Annie DeB., Milestown. Picture of the old building of Armitage school house. 1791. Photograph of new building of Armitage school house. Mrs. Mears furnishes the following account of this educational institution, which is now known as Ellwood public school, and is located at Milestown, in the Twenty-second ward, Philadelphia:

This property, containing about three quarters of an acre, with a small stone house, was a gift from Benjamin Armitage, Sr., to five trustees from Bristol township and one from Cheltenham, September 6, 1761. The first named trustees were Joseph Spencer, Derick Lukens, Joseph North, Nathan Thomas, Caleb Armitage, and Isaac Leech, of Cheltenham. There are no accounts of the first thirty years. In 1790 Dr. George DeBenneville, Jr., was appointed to fill a vacancy and made Secretary, which he held until his death, December 20, 1850. There are many interesting incidents connected with the school from this time, which have been regularly recorded in a book used for that purpose, in my possession, but too lengthy to be recited here.

The first religious services held in this neighborhood were begun in the old school house in the beginning of 1800. Rev. Samuel Henry, of Germantown; Rev. George Sheets, of (Trinity) Oxford; and other ministers of various denominations, preached on Sunday afternoons, according to appointment. In 1809 Rev. John Bachman was a teacher at the school, having succeeded Alexander Wilson, the ornithologist, and preached his first discourse here. He afterwards became rector of St. John's Lutheran Church, at Charleston, S. C., where he remained fifty-five years. He died at an advanced age.

The price of schooling was \$1.50 per quarter. In 1819, after the Octagon school house was finished, it was advanced to the sum of \$2, after much opposition in the neighborhood.

In 1867 the property was transferred to the Board of Education, to be continued for the purposes named in the deed by the donor. The present new house was erected by the Board of Education in 1875.

Copy of a school bill I have in my collection of the old accounts:

Received this 21st day of the 7th mo. 1789 of George DeBenneville Eight shillings and Four pence in full for a Quarters Schooling which expired the 8th of 3d month.

Yr m

ISAAC SAMMS.

£ s. d.

0 8 4

Nancy DeBenneville's schooling.

NOTE.—My aunt, Nancy DeBenneville, was 6 years old at the time this bill was rendered. Isaac Samms died of yellow fever in 1793, while a teacher at the school.

Moss, Franklin, Jenkintown. Oil Painting of Audenried school house.

Pomeroy, Mrs. H. S., Norristown. Engraving of St. James' Episcopal church, Evansburg; founded in 1721.

Roberts, Charles, Philadelphia. Sketch of Gwynedd meeting house Sketch of Plymouth meeting house.

Shoemaker, Robert, Shoemakertown. Public school, Camptown. **Smith, X.**, Weldon. Oil Painting of octagonal school house, near McDowell's old paper mill. Hon. Samuel D. Ingham went to school here in the last century. He was the Secretary of the Treasury under Jackson; also member of Congress from Bucks county.

Thompson, Mary L., Jenkintown. Photograph of Audenried school house.

Wentz, Daniel, Fort Washington. Photograph of St. Thomas' church, built in 1710.

Wilson Family, The, Jenkintown. Photograph of Presbyterian church. Photograph of Abington Friends meeting.

Yost, Miss Julia, Collegeville. Crayon Drawing of old Lutheran church, Trappe.

Young, Miss Anne, Lower Merion. Portrait of Llewellyn Young, grandfather of exhibitor; over 100 years old.

CLASS XXIII.

RITTENHOUSE CLOCKS AND SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS.



Corson, Walter H., Plymouth. Surveyor's Level, made by David Rittenhouse.

Egolf, Gus, Norristown. Clock, made by David Rittenhouse about the year 1765.

Homer, Samuel, Norristown. Surveyor's Compass, made by David Rittenhouse; in complete working order, and in as good condition as when new.

Schutt, Jacob, Prospectville. Rittenhouse Clock, made by Benjamin Rittenhouse; date unknown. Bought soon after the Revolutionary war by exhibitor's grandfather, Henry Wismer, who lived on the banks of the Schuylkill, in Lower Providence.

United States Mint, Philadelphia. Scales, in mahogany case, made by David Rittenhouse when he was Director of the Mint, or previous to that time. At his death they passed into the possession of James Margrave, silver-smith, who subsequently became a coin broker, and had his office at the corner of Chestnut and Third streets. At his death they passed into the possession of C. A. Paulson. At his death they were sold at public auction, December 19, 1866, and purchased by Dr. George Hamilton, who presented them to the United States Mint in 1871. On the case is the inscription: "Balance and Case, made by Dr. Rittenhouse, as Director of the United States Mint, and in use during his official term, 1792 to 1795. Presented by Dr. George Hamilton, November, 1871."

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Great Orrery, made by David Rittenhouse.

Walker, Sarah S., Abrams. Rittenhouse Clock, 24-hour, winds with chain, and shows the day of the month; made by Benjamin Rittenhouse. It was purchased at a sale of personal property of Isaac Eastburn, a resident of Upper Merion, who died in 1861, at the age of 82 years. It belonged to his father, John Eastburn.

Weber, George M., Worcester. Rittenhouse Surveyor's Compass, 1789. Still in complete working order, and used in practice; also, the original wooden box, of unique design and workmanship, for holding the compass when not in use. Both were for a long time the property of Rev. George Wack, a prominent citizen of Montgomery county.

Zimmerman, Mrs. Elizabeth, Providence Square. Clock, made by Benjamin Rittenhouse for his own use. At his death it was purchased by Harmon Custer, grandfather of the exhibitor, who used it until his death in 1800, when Henry Custer became its owner. It was retained by him until his death on August 8, 1837, when his daughter and sole heir, the exhibitor, inherited it. It has stood in its present place, in Worcester, about one mile from Providence Square, since Harmon Custer brought it there; and it has always been in good running order, and has kept time correctly. It has a brass face, and month, hour, minute and second hands. The month hand moves once a day. It has a revolving moon, which moves one a day, completing its round with the moon in the heavens. On the left side of the face it has a slide, which, when moved down,

prevents its striking without interfering with any of the running parts. In the centre of the face are the words, "Benjamin Bittenhouse, Worcester, Feclt." It also bears the Latin phrase, "Nemo omnibus horis sept tempus fugit." It has no date.

CLASS XXIV.

ARMS AND EQUIPMENTS.

- Abraham, Thomas D.**, Abrams. Sword, used by Joseph Abraham in the Montgomery county militia.
- Bates, Cornelius**, Jenkintown. Two Horse Pistols, flint locks. Pocket Pistol, flint lock.
- Berndt, Mrs.**, Centre Square. Sword, from the Thirty Year's war.
- Blackfan, Mrs. Joseph**, Norristown. Lance.
- Bosler, Joseph**, Shoemakertown. Musket and Hatchet, about 100 years old.
- Bult, George T.**, Whitpain. Old Military Button.
- Dorworth, Joseph H.**, Norritonville. Pistol, 109 years old. Pistol, from Germany. 1734.
- Emery, John**, Cheltenham. Old-fashioned Gun, with flint lock. Two old-fashioned Guns.
- Ervien, J. L.**, Ashbourne. New Pistol and modern Gun.
- Fornance, Mrs. Anne B.**, Norristown. Old flint-lock Horse Pistol.
- Homer, Samuel**, Norristown. Gun and Powder Horn.
- Keech, Jacob**, Lower Merion. Powder Horn, 150 years old.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Sharpshooter Rifle, one of the first made.
- Kulp, Elias K.**, Lederachville. Rifle, every portion of which except the lock and barrel, is the workmanship of the late Benjamin Kulp, the exhibitor's father, of Perkiomen township. Date, 1858; handsomely silver-plated.
- Mann, Howard, C.**, Three Tuns. Flint-lock Horse Pistol, 75 years old.
- Moore, Edwin**, Port Kennedy. Musket, 200 years old.
- Moore, Mrs. Nathan**, Centre Square. Ancient Sword.
- Moyer, Mrs. Charles**, Broad Axe. Leather Case for a dagger, made in 1736.
- Potts, Mrs. William W.**, Swedeland. Gun, brought to the United States by the French Consul at Philadelphia during the war of 1812; now in the possession of William W. Potts.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Sword Cane, came from Germany; very old.
- Schwenk, Enos**, Grater's Ford. Flint-lock Gun, six feet long, known to be over 100 years old; still in working order.
- Shoemaker, Joseph**, Norristown. Suit of Regimentals, worn by a member of the City Troops of Philadelphia.
- Shultz, John**, Norristown. Cannon Ball and Grape Shot.
- Spencer, Mrs. Ella**, Jenkintown. Japanese Sword.
- Stratton, B. F.**, Pottstown. Fife, 125 years old.
- Walker, E. H.**, Jarrettown. Gun, from France; 150 years old.
- Walker, Howard**, Mont Clare. Cannon Ball.

CLASS XXV.

EARLY SURGICAL AND DENTAL INSTRUMENTS.

- Blackfan, Miss**, Norristown. Box of Surgical Instruments, used seventy-five years ago.
- Evans, J. S.**, Gwynedd. Tooth Extractor.
- Kohl, George M.**, Jenkintown. Lancet, used when bleeding was popular.
- Kulp, Elias K.**, Lederachville. Spring Lancet, 60 years old; made by the late Isaac Kulp, an ingenious craftsman of Perkiomen township.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Surgeon's Knife; very old, and much used.

CLASS XXVI.

COINS AND PAPER MONEY, OLD AND NEW.

- Anders, Andrew**, Kulpsville. Silver Coin, dated 1624.
- Anders, George H.**, Norritonville. Case of United States Coins, 1793 to 1884. Revolutionary Currency. Fractional Currency of the United States.
- Armitage, Jacob**, Jenkintown. Silver Coin, presented to exhibitor as a pocket-piece, many years ago, on the occasion of his shooting a deer.
- Arnold, Elwin C.**, Norristown. Collection of Coins in walnut silver-mounted case: English copper half penny, 1723. Made by a

gentleman named Wood, expressly to pass in America. English copper pennies, 1736, 1776, and 1806. William IV penny. Feuchtwanger cent, 1837. Copper kreutzer of Germany, 1851. Canadian copper half penny, 1854, 1862. Canadian copper cent, 1859, 1863. Nova Scotia copper cent, 1861. Large Turkish coin, marked V. Two Spanish silver Rex or quarter, 1773, 1781. Sixty-four United States copper cents; complete set from 1793 to 1857. Eighteen United States nickel and bronze cents; all issued except ten. Seven United States copper half cents, 1801, 1804, 1807, 1809, 1826, 1828, 1835. Two United States silver 3-cent pieces, 1852 and 1858. United States silver 20-cent piece, 1875. United States fractional currency, 3-cent and 5-cent notes. Eight copper United States war coins of 1863, inscribed, "No Compromise with Traitors," "Union Forever," etc. Twelve United States 1-cent postage stamps, twelve 2-cent, twenty 3-cent, two 4-cent, one 5-cent, one 6-cent, and one 15-cent. Twenty-one United States internal revenue stamps, of various kinds and denominations. Fifteen English and Canadian postage stamps. Coin Catalogue and Postage Stamp Catalogue. Copy of American Journal of Philately.

Arnold, Henry, Neshaminy. Silver Half Dollar, dated 1795; found on the farm of Elizabeth Arnold.

Bates, Cornelius, Jenkintown. Case of Paper Money.

Bauer, Andrew, Niantic. Two pieces of Continental Money, 1776 and 1777.

Beans, E. C., Telford. United States Copper Cents, from 1793 to 1857, both inclusive, viz: Wreath cent, "One Hundred for Dollar," on edge, 1793; 1793 Head cent, 1794; thick planchet, lettered edge, 1795; Liberty Cap cent, 1796; uncirculated cents, 1297 and 1898; genuine, 1799; broken die, genuine, 1804; head of 1800 and head of 1812, two kinds, 1808; crossed and plain 4, 1814; perfect die, 1816 and 1820; thirteen stars and fifteen stars, 1817; large and small date, 1819; perfect date, 1823; two varieties, 1835; plain and beaded half strings, 1837; four kinds, 1839; large and small date, 1840, 1842, and 1857; small date only, 1841; three varieties, 1843; straight and slanting date, 1855; upright and slanting 5, 1856. United States Half Cents, 1793-94, 1797, 1800, 1802, 1803-11, 1811 T, 1825-26, 1812 twelve stars and thirteen stars, 1850-51, 1853-57. French Cent, 1837. Eagle Cent, copper, 1854 and 1855. Vermont Auctor Cent, 1787. Massachusetts Cent, 1788. New Jersey Cent, 1786, 1787, 1788. Virginia Half Penny, 1773. Rosa Americana, two pence, 1723. Washington and Independence, R., Unity States, one cent large head. Washington Medal, large head, thick planchet, R. shield with stars, lettered edge, to wit: "An Asylum for the Oppressed of All Nations." Almost uncirculated. United States Silver Dollars, viz: Flowing hair, 1785; fillet head, small date, largest letter in R., 1796; seven stars facing, 1797; small eagle, fifteen stars, 1798; five stars facing, 1799; 1800-1803, 1840-1850, 1853, 1861-1873, 1859, and 1860, uncirculated; Trade Dollars, 1873-1883; Trade Dollars, proofs, 1879-1883. United States Silver Half Dollars, viz: 1795, 1803, 1805, 1808-1815, 1817-1827, 1829-1834, 1851, 1852; pointed and blunt 6, 1806; head to right, 1807; head to left, 1807; close date and wide date, 1820; 1820 over 1819; large curled 2, 1828; three varieties, 1834; New Orleans Mint, 1838; head of Liberty, 1839; Liberty seated, 1839; with and without arrows 1873; proofs, 1879-1884; with "In God we Trust" omitted in R., 1866. United States Silver Quarter Dollars, viz: Uncirculated, with its mint lustre, 1796; 1805, 1806, 1807, 1815, 1818-1822, 1825, 1832-1884; large and small letters, 1831; head of Liberty, 1838; Liberty seated, 1838; no arrows, 1853; proofs, 1879-1884. United States Silver 20-Cent Pieces, 1875, 1876, 1877. United States Silver 10-Cent Pieces, viz: 1798, 1805, 1809, 1820, 1823-1827, 1829-1836, 1839-1852, 1854-1884; uncirculated, 1802; large and small dates, 1814, 1821, 1828, 1856; head of Liberty, 1837; Liberty seated, 1837; with stars, 1838; no stars, 1838; with stars, large date, head of 1836, 1838; without arrows, 1853; with and without arrows, 1873; proofs, 1879-1884. United States Silver 5-Cent Pieces, viz: 1829-1884; head of Liberty, 1837; Liberty seated, 1837; no stars and with stars, 1838; no arrows, 1853; United States silver three-cent pieces, 1851-1873.

Beck, Mrs. John P., Centre Square. Coins.

Bernhart, Miss Maggie, East Greenville. See Heebner, Z. L.

Bertolet, A. F., Trappe. Continental Currency.

Bisson, Jane, Three Tuns. Seven old Coins and a \$2 Note of Confederate money.

Boorse, John C., Kulpsville. Fifty-four pieces of Continental money, from 1760 upwards.

Bult, George T., Whitpain. \$1 and \$5 Notes, Dominion of Canada, 1878 and 1883. \$5, Crawford County Bank, 1859, 5-cent Note of

- the city of Wilmington, 1862. 5-cent Note United States Bank, 1803. 25-cent Note United States, 1864. 5-cent and 10 cent Notes United States, 1863. 12½-cent Note Philadelphia Loan Company, 1837. 10-cent Note Camden Railroad Transportation Co., 1837. 6¼-cent Note Southwark Bank, 1837. 5-cent and 6¼-cent Notes borough of Reading, 1837. 5-cent and 6¼-cent Notes Schuylkill Savings and Insurance Company, 1837. 5-cent Note Manual Labor Bank, 1837.
- Carn, Abraham**, Fort Washington. Continental Money.
- Cassel, Isaac R.**, North Wales. Collection of Copper and Silver Coins. Collection of Continental Notes. Collection of nineteen United States Fractional Currency. Two Confederate Notes. Two Canadian Notes. \$1 Note of Bank of Montgomery County, January 2, 1865. \$1 Greenback.
- Cassel, Jacob**, Kulpsville. Pocket-book with Continental paper money.
- Clemmer, John M.**, Harleysville. Three American Silver Dollars, 1798, 1799, 1800.
- Davis, Benjamin**, Jenkintown. Old Silver Coin, dug up in Mooretown in 1883. Old Spanish Coins, in money box.
- Davis, Master Willie**, Jenkintown. Two Coins, very old.
- Detwiler, Jones**, Blue Bell. Nine pieces Paper Currency, Colonial and Continental. Two pieces Paper Currency of 1816—\$3 note and 6¼-cent piece. Paper Currency of 1837—50, 25, 20, and 6¼-cents. Paper Currency of 1862—15, 25, 10, and 5 cents. Paper Fractional Currency of 1863; all the devices, 24 pieces. Paper Confederate and Fractional Currency; 6 pieces. Silver Dollars, from 1795 to 1884, of all the different devices, except the reverses of 1836 and 1838. Silver Half Dollars, Quarters and Dimes, from 1805 to 1884. Half Dimes, from 1795 to 1884. 3-cent Pièces, first and last devices. Nickels, first and last two devices; one without "Cents," the other with "Cents." Feuchtwanger Cent of 1837; 2 pieces. Copper Virginia Penny, 1774. Connecticut Penny, 1787. New Jersey Penny, 1788. Nova Constellatio Cent, 1785. Franklin Cent, 1787. Chain Cent, 1793; 2 pieces. Washington Cent, 1791. Liberty Cap Cents, 1794 and 1796; the latter date with the cue tied. Cents of all devices not mentioned above, to the present, including the nickels. Half Cents, all the devices from 1794 to 1857, when last issued. General devices of coin in circulation, 1784; Silver, Spanish; the copper coins with English devices, farthing and half farthing. 9 pieces. Full set of Coins in present circulation. 9 pieces. Full set of copper pieces containing burlesques upon Andrew Jackson for vetoing the United States Bank bill in 1837; one piece, reissued in 1841, with "Loco-Foco" engraved thereon. Gold Dollar, first issue of 1853. 50-cent and 25-cent Gold pieces.
- Detwiler, Mrs. Sarah**, Fairview Village. Old Coin; Five shillings, Revolutionary money.
- Dolan, Daniel**, Jarrettsville. Ten Silver and Copper Coins, 1775 to 1808.
- Erb, John**, Douglass. Half Cent, 1620. Cent, 1786.
- Freed, E. K.**, North Wales. Russian Note, 1812. German Thaler, 1812.
- Freed, Isaac G.**, North Wales. 10-cent Note of deposit (shinplaster) of Penn Township Savings and Insurance Company; 1837.
- Freed, Mrs. Isaac G.**, North Wales. 10-shilling Continental Note, No. 17,129; printed by Hall & Sellers in 1773.
- Freeman, John**, Worcester. Five old Coins.
- Fryer, Henry A. Schwenk**, Skippack. Continental Money, viz.: 2 shilling piece, 1767. ¾ of a Dollar, 1774. 30-shilling piece, 1775. 6-pence, 1777. 5-shilling piece, 1773. 20-shilling piece, 1777.
- Fryer, Henry S.**, Skippack. \$10 Note Lancaster Bank.
- Gerhart, John**, Douglass. 20 Shillings Continental money.
- Gotwals, Abraham**, Belfry. Twelve old Coins.
- Grater, Abraham**, Collegeville. Continental Money. Spanish Dollar, 1793.
- Grater, Garret**, Schwenksville. Four pieces Continental Money; April 10, 1774; April 25, 1775; April 25, 1776; April 10, 1777.
- Grimley, Solomon K.**, Schwenksville. Three Silver Dollars, 1795. Silver Dollars, 1796, 1798, 1799, 1800, 1802; one of each. Silver Half Dollars, 1803, 1807, 1808, 1819, 1859, 1861, 1865. \$10 Gold Pieces, 1803, 1845. \$5 Gold Pieces, 1800, 1803, 1843. \$3 Gold Piece, 1854. \$2.50 Gold Piece, 1846. \$1 Gold Piece, 1851. Half Cents, 1793, 1794; with Liberty cap. Farthings: George I, 1723; George II, 1737; George III, 1807. Copper Cent, large and thin, with flowing hair and wreath, 1793. Copper Cent, small and thick, with flowing hair and wreath, 1793. Copper Cent, small and thick, with chain and flowing hair, 1793. Copper Cent, large and thin, with Liberty cap and wreath, 1793. United States Sun Cent, 1783. Two United States Cents of 1794, one small and thick; one of 1796, thin and damaged; one each of 1797 to 1802 inclusive. Half Penny, 1804. Nickel Pennies, 1856, 1857. Large Pennies, 1856, 1857. Silbert, Shearer & Co., 1791. French Piece; arms of Bristol.
- Groff, Mrs. Catharine**, Worcester. Coins and Virginia Notes, used in the late war.
- Grubb, Rev. N. B.**, Philadelphia. Paper Money, viz.: Twenty shillings, issued by the counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware, in the thirty-second year of the reign of King George II. Dated the 1st day of June, 1759. Ten shillings, issued by Pennsylvania in the sixteenth year of the reign of His Majesty George III. Dated at Philadelphia, the 8th day of December, 1765. Two shillings, issued according to an act of General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Dated the 10th day of April, A. D. 1777.
- Harrison, James**, Spring House. Five English Coins.
- Harry, Miss Mary**, Norristown. Coin, with Lord's Prayer written on it; dated 1800.
- Heckler, James Y.**, Harleysville. Two Silver Half Dollars, 1819, 1825. Quarter Dollar, 1819. Half Cent, 1804. Two Coins, 1786, 1817.
- Heebner, Mrs. C. B.**, Collegeville. British Coins, 1791, 1793, 1801.
- Heebner, Z. L., and Maggie Bernhart**, East Greenville. Continental Money.
- Hobensack, Wilkin**, Fitzwatertown. Coin and Paper Money.
- Hobson, F. G.**, Collegeville. Continental Money.
- Hodgkins, S. T.**, Norristown. Penny of 1793.
- Howland, Mrs. Susan**, North Wales. Two Continental Notes, 1772, 1775.
- Johnson, Mrs.**, Norristown. Half Pennies, old.
- Keller, Charles M.**, Douglass. Quarter, 1788. Shilling, 1784. Old Shilling. 10 cent Piece, 1858. 25-cent Pieces, 1825, 1832, 1837. Fifteen Half Cents. Twelve old Pennies.
- Keller, F. M.**, Douglass. One Cent, 1825. Two Cents, 1837. One Cent, 1863. One Cent, 1777. German Kreutzer, 1772.
- Kenderdine, Mrs. Lavina**, North Wales. Five Silver Coins.
- Kirk, Edwin**, Neshaminy. Four Pence (a groat), paper money; dated 1772.
- Knipe, Irvin P., and Frank H. Poley**, Norristown. Collection of American Copper Pennies.
- Kohl, George M.**, Jenkintown. Continental Money, various denominations.
- Koons, Mrs. Ann**, Collegeville. \$100 Confederate Note.
- Kriebel, Jesse S.**, Worcester. Coin, 1772.
- Lefevre, William**, Douglass. 3, 5, 10, 25 and 50-cent Currency, March, 1863. Dollar, 1820.
- Lightfoot, Ellen**, King-of-Prussia. Continental Money, 1771, 1773.
- Linsinbigler, Samuel**, Douglass. Coin, 1805.
- Loos, Mrs. Jacob**, Fairview Village. Four old Coins.
- Lownes, Charles**, West Point. Old Coins.
- Mann, John H.**, Horsham. Collection of Coins, dated from 1773 to 1850.
- Mann, Howard C.**, Three Tuns. Collection of Coins.
- Markley, George**, Conshohocken. Silver Coin, 1764.
- Nace, Mrs. Catharine**, Trappe. Continental Money, 1774, 1776.
- Naille, Miss Annie M.**, Royersford. Gold Quarter Dollar.
- Noble, Thomas L.**, Jenkintown. Penny Token, 1812. New Jersey Cent. Connecticut Cents. Cent, one each 1794, 1796, 1797. Half Cent, one each, 1804, 1808. Copper, George III, 1787.
- Nyce, George S.**, Frederick. Frame containing Continental Money, Shinplasters, &c.
- Pawling, Mrs. Dr.**, Norristown. Continental Money of the State of Massachusetts, 1780.
- Poh, Willoughby**, Douglass. Old Quarter, 1770. Fifteen Shillings Continental money.
- Poley, Frank H.**, Norristown. See Knipe, Irvin P.
- Prince, Lewis, Sr.**, Norritonville. Old Coins.
- Reed, Dr. W. H.**, Jeffersonville. Copper Coin, dated 1787.
- Reiff, Mrs. Joseph L.**, Ambler. Continental Money.
- Renninger, William**, Douglass. Five Francs, 1819. Prussian Thaler, 1818.
- Royer, Mrs. Elizabeth**, Trappe. Pocket Book and Money, nearly 200 years old.
- Schultz, J. K.**, Niantic. Old Pocket Book, containing two pieces of silver 200 years old, and thirty six pieces of Continental money.

- Schweinhart, George**, Douglass. Shilling, 1774.
- Shambouch, Jackson**, Collegeville. Collection of Coins.
- Sheridian, Mrs. Thomas**, Collegeville. Old Coins.
- Shultz, John**, Norristown. Frame containing Continental money.
- Sliefer, Dr. H. F.**, North Wales. 3 Pence, No. 1,385, 1781, and 6 Pence, 1775, Pennsylvania provincial currency. Number of Foreign Coins.
- Smith, John**, Douglass. Spanish Dollar, 1813.
- Smith, Mrs. John L.**, North Wales. Five Continental Notes, 1779; from exhibitor's grandfather.
- Sower, F. D.**, Norristown. Roman Coin, 140 years after the birth of Christ. Roman Coin, date unknown.
- Springer Brothers**, Kulpville. United States Cents, from 1793 to 1864. One hundred and ninety-six Half Cents, of various dates. Sixty three United States Cents, of various dates. Washington Cent, 1791 and 1792. United States, 1788. Indian Ecceston Medal. Franklin or Fugio Cent, 1787. Fenchtwanger Cent, 1837. Two Eagle Nickle Cents, 1856. Three Nova Cessarea, 1787. Two Nova Cessares, 1786. Two Vermont Cents, et lib inde, 1787, 1788. Nova Constellatio Cent, 1785. Three George III Shield of Virginia, 1773. George II Rex, 1735, 1739, 1740, 1752. Three Georgivs Rex, 1723; Georgivs Rex, 1721, 1740, 1799. Voce Populi Half Penny, 1760. Farthing, 1760. Hibernia, 1722, 1766, 1775, 1781, 1805, 1822. Brass Coin, 1722. Manchester Half Penny, 1793. Two Coins Pro Bono Publico, 1794. Promissory Half Penny, 1791. Anglesey Mines Half Penny, 1788. Forty Hard Times Tokens. Forty War Tokens, from 1861 to 1864. Two hundred Foreign Coins, from England, Germany, France, Spain, East Indies, Buenos Ayres, Canada, Mexico, etc.
- Steiner, Mrs. J. F.**, Norristown. German Coins, 1707 and 1759. Half Cent, 1800.
- Stiteller, Mrs. Edwin D.**, Gulf Mills. Bolivian Dollar, 1849. Old Levy, 1774. American Half Cents, 1826, 1834. Nova Scotia Half Cent 1861. English Farthing, 1845.
- Stout, Curtis B.**, Three Tuns. Mexican Silver Dollar, 1846. Silver Shilling, 1873. Canadian Silver Quarter, 1872. 11-penny Bit, 1773. French Silver Fifty Centimes, 1873. Copper Cents, 1835, 1839, 1843-1846, 1851-1853, 1855, 185-, and three of uncertain dates.
- Stout, Mary**, Three Tuns. About fifty Copper Pennies, 1810 to 1854 Two Colonial Cents, 1787.
- Saylor, John**, Lower Merion. Four Notes in Continental money. viz.: 2s. 6d., 1772, No. 24,345; 1s. 1775, No. 14,355; 18d., 1772, No. 25,127; Half Crown, 1769.
- Utz, Mrs. George**, Jenkintown. Three Copper Coins, of ancient date; dug up in Abington township.
- Walker, E. H.**, Jarrettown. Two Notes fractional currency.
- Walker, Sarah S.**, Abrams. Twenty-five Coins. \$20 Confederate Note. 2s. 6d Continental money. \$1 Friendly Association Note, 1826.
- Walton, John**, Horsham. Two pieces Continental money.
- Wanger, George F. Price**, Norristown. Frame containing Colonial Notes, in use in the "Colony of New Jersey," the "Province of Pennsylvania," the "State of Massachusetts Bay," Maryland, and the "Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex on the Delaware." Medals. Relics of Presidential campaigns; the oldest is of Henry Clay.
- Warnar, John**, Worcester. Old Coin; two pieces Continental money.
- Weikel, John**, Collegeville, Confederate Money.
- Weinberger, Mrs. E. K.**, Collegeville. Continental Currency, in bills of one-third dollar, \$2, \$4, \$6, \$7, \$8, and \$30.
- Weingartner, William**, North Wales. Dollar pieces, 1799, 1800. Half Dollar pieces, 1812 to 1838.
- Wilgus, Samuel B.**, Horsham. Half Dollar and Ten-cent Notes.
- Williams, Mrs. M. J.**, Jarrettown. Piece of Paper Money, 1776.
- Williams, Thomas**, Pittville. Continental Paper Money.
- Wolf, George**, Plymouth. Two Foreign Coins. American Cent, 1797.
- Wurflein, Mrs. John**, Edge Hill. German Silver Coin, made in time of the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria. Case of Silver Coins, 1847 to 1865.

CLASS XXVII.

HERBARIUM OF THE FERNS AND FLORA OF THE COUNTY.

- Cottman, Mrs. J. F.**, Jenkintown. Book of Natural Flowers, prepared in 1859; remarkable for preserving colors.
- Harvey, Mrs. Margaret B.**, Ardmore. Collection of twenty-eight varieties of Ferns found growing in Montgomery county, dried and nicely mounted on paper in groups, including the following:

Polypodium, *Polypodium vulgare*; Maiden hair, *Adiantum pedatum*; Brake, or Bracken, *Pteris aquilina*; Cliff Brake, *Pellaea atropurpurea*; Ebony Fern, *Asplenium ebenedes*; Wall Rue Fern, *Asplenium Ruta muraria*; Spleen-wort, *Asplenium angustifolium*; Larger Spleen-wort, *Asplenium thelypteroides*; Lady Fern, *Asplenium Filix-foemina*; Walking Fern, *Campylosorus rhizophyllus*; Beech fern, *Phegopteris hexagonoptera*; Swamp Shield fern, *Aspidium Thelypteris*; New York fern, *Aspidium. Noveboracense*; Spring Shield fern, *Aspidium Spinulosum*; Crested fern, *Aspidium cristatum*; Shield fern, *Aspidium Goldianum*; Wood fern, *Aspidium marginale*; Christmas fern, *Aspidium acrostichoides*; Bladder fern, *Cystopteris fragilis*; Sensitive fern, *Onoclea sensibilis*; Woodsia, *Woodsia Ilvensis*; Dicksonia, *Dicksonia punctilobula*; Royal fern, *Osmunda regalis*; Clayton's fern, *Osmunda Claytoniana*; Cinnamon fern, *Osmunda cinnamomea*; Grape fern, *Botrychium Virginicum*; Moonwort, *Botrychium lunarioides* (variety, *obliquum*); Moonwort, *Botrychium lunarioides* (variety, *dissectum*).

Sixty-nine pencil drawings of Wild Flowers of Montgomery County, viz.:

SPRING FLOWERS.

GROUP I.

Trailing arbutus, *Epigaea repens*; Liverleaf, *Hepatica triloba*; Wild hyacinth, or blue bottle, *Muscari racemosum*; Blood root, *Sanguinaria Canadensis*; Spring beauty, *Claytonia Virginica*; Rue anemone, *Thalictrum anemonoides*; Wood anemone, *Anemone nemorosa*; Golden corydalis, *Corydalis flavula*; Dutchman's breeches, *Dicentra cucullaria*.

GROUP II.

Quaker ladies, *Houstonia cœrulea*; Dog tooth, *Erythronium Americanum*; Violet sorrel, *Oxalis violacea*; Columbine, *Aquilegia Canadensis*; Tooth root, *Dentaria laciniata*; Wild geranium, *Geranium maculatum*; Cinquefoil, *Potentilla Canadensis*; Solomon's seal, *Polygonatum giganteum*; Jack-in-the-Pulpit, *Arisæma triphyllum*.

GROUP III.

Violets.

Common purple violet, *Viola cucullata*; Sweet-scented white violet, *Viola blanda*; Heart-leaved violet, *Viola cordata*; Arrow-headed violet, *Viola sagittata*; Hand-leaved violet, *Viola palmata*; Yellow violet, *Viola pubescens*; Striped violet, *Viola striata*; Bird-foot violet, *Viola pedata*; Dog violet, *Viola canina*.

SUMMER FLOWERS.

GROUP I.

Buttercups, *Ranunculus acris*; Daisies, *Leucanthemum vulgare*; Azalea, *Azalea nudiflora*; Laurel, *Kalmia latifolia*; Blue flag, *Iris versicolor*; Cockle, *Lychnis githago*; Indian physic, *Gillenia trifoliata*; Partridge berry, *Mitchella repens*; Wild rose, *Rosa blanda*.

GROUP II.

Spider wort, *Tradescantia Virginica*; Venus' looking-glass, *Specularia perfoliata*; Wild lily, *Lilium superbum*; Wild pink, *Dianthus armeria*; Starry campion, *Silene stellata*; Bouncing Bet, *Saponaria officinalis*; Indian pipe, *Monotropa uniflora*; Shin leaf, *Pyrola elliptica*; Pipsissewa, *Chimaphila maculata*.

GROUP III.

Orchids.—Showy orchis, *Orchis spectabilis*; Twayblade, *Liparis lilifolia*; Adam and Eve, *aplectrum hyemale*; Fringed orchis, *Habenaria lacera*; Rattlesnake plantain, *Goodyera pubescens*; Ladies' tresses, *Spiranthes gracilis*.

AUTUMN FLOWERS.

GROUP I.

Butterfly plant, *Asclepias tuberosa*; Cone flower, *Rudbeckia hirta*; Wild sunflower, *Helianthus strumosus*; Cardinal flower, *Lobelia cardinalis*; Golden rod, *Solidago*; Blue and white asters, *Aster*; Closed gentian, *Gentiana Andreweii*; Touch-me-not, *Impatiens fulva*; Evening primrose, *Oenothera biennis*.

GROUP II.

Snap-dragon, *Linaria vulgaris*; Arrow-head, *Sagittaria variabilis*; Blue lobelia, *Lobelia syphilitica*; Virgin's bower, *Clematis Virginica*; Gerardia, *Gerardia tennifolia*; Man-of-the-earth, *Ipomoea pandurata*; Monkey flower, *Mimulus alatus*; Tick trefoil, *Desmodium nudiflorum*; Shell flower, *Chelone glabra*.

CLASS XXVIII.

MINERALS AND FOSSILS.

- Boorse, John C.**, Kulpville. Petrified Wood, from the Rocky Mountains and Towamencin.

Brunner, S. U., North Wales. See Slifer, Dr. H. F.
Eberle, The Misses, Oak Lane. Copper Ore, found on the farm of Capt. George Eberle, father of the exhibitors, while quarrying stone about the year 1850.
Elkinton, George, Blue Bell. Petrified Snakes.
Hallman, Mrs. Henry, Trappe. Petrification.
Kohl, George J., Jenkintown. Specimens of Mica, found near Jenkintown, on the line of the North Pennsylvania railroad. About two hundred Minerals and Geological Specimens, native and foreign.
Lowe, Mrs. T. S. C., Norristown. Quartz Crystal, found near Perkiomen.
Moyer, Amos, Trappe. Petrification.
Peterman, Frederick, Collegeville. Petrified Clam, from Chesapeake Bay.
Slifer, Dr. H. F. (from his museum in Prof. S. U. Brunner's academy), North Wales. Fluorspar, from Cumberland, England. Sapphire, from Ceylon. Coral, from China and Australia. Gold, from California. Lead, from Galena. Amethyst. Silver Ore, from Colorado. Copper Ore, from Lake Ontario. Alabaster, Garnet, Moss Agate, Pyrite, Crystal Quartz, Smoked Quartz, Arsenic, Antimony, Blood Aspis, Blue Lapis, Jasper, Agate, Onyx, Carnelian, Labradorite. Fish Lias. Three pieces of Petrified Wood. Fossil Fish.
Tyson, Samuel, King-of-Prussia. Large Quartz Crystal, weighing nine pounds, from Upper Merion township. Calamine, from Sussex county, N. J. Group of Quartz Crystals, from Dauphin, France. Group of Quartz Crystals, Chalcho pyrite, from Ellenville, Ulster county, N. Y. Dolomite, from Phoenixville, Pa. Garnets, from Musse Alps, Piedmont. Fluorite, from Cumberland, England.

CLASS XXIX.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

Abraham, Thomas D., Abrams. Product from exhibitor's paper mill, 1884.
Albertson, J. M. & Sons, Norristown. Glass, the product of exhibitors' works.
Anders, George H., Norritonville. Section of the first Atlantic cable. Piece of the great wall of China. Piece of Sponge, used by George Washington.
Arnold, Edwin C., Norristown. Piece of Wood from the floor of the Washington headquarters, where the corner-stone was laid June 18, 1878. Magnetic Time-Keeper and Compass.
Atkinson, Robert, Bryn Mawr. Tape Measure, 200 years old.
Ange, Miss E. M., Norristown. Tin Case, a holder for documents. Relic of the Haytien insurrection, 1798.
Bates, William, Bridgeport. Dog Collar, 101 years old.
Bean, Edward, Jeffersonville. Shaft Coupling; a Norriton invention.
Beard, John, Norristown. Side Saddle, 77 years old.
Bisson, Jane, Three Tuns. Paper Cutter, 75 years old. Letter Stamp and Sealing Wax, each 75 years old.
Blackfan, Mrs. Joseph, Norristown. Telescope and Eye-glass.
Boorse, Henry R., Kulpsville. Brace and Bits.
Boorse, John C., Kulpsville. Door Lock and Key. The lock is $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide and 12 inches long; the key weighs one pound, and the ring is silver-plated. It is said that it is one of the locks of the old court house at Norristown, and that it was obtained there by David C. Kulp, ex-Commissioner of Montgomery county.
Bosch, Enos, Norristown. Box, made in the year 1504. Yard Stick inlaid; made in France thirty years ago.
Bosler, Joseph, Shcemakertown. Acorn, found in an old wall; about 100 years old.
Branin, Ann, Jenkintown. Two Shoe Lasts, over 100 years old.
Brunner, S. U., North Wales. See Slifer, Dr. H. F.
Buckman, Mrs. Thomas, Jenkintown. Watchman's Rattle.
Cassel, Abraham H., Harleysville. Wooden Jar, from the drug store of Christopher Sauer, Germantown. In 1732 Christopher Sauer built a fine house in Germantown, the finest then there, and established a laboratory and drug store (for he had studied medicine in Germany). He needed jars, but had none, and could not procure any, none being then made in this country, and there were no facilities to import them at that time. Under these circumstances he applied to Heinrich Frey, a very ingenious turner, who made a supply, turning them out of wood in the form of jars, of three sizes, in capacity about one, two and four quarts. This one, being of the one-quart size, came into the hands of the exhibitor. Block of Wood, from the old elm tree under which William Penn made his first treaty with the Indians in 1682. This tree stood until 1811, when it was blown down by a great storm; it was hollow, and so much decayed that but little solid or sound wood could be obtained from it. Some of the best, it is said, was sold at the time for a dollar a pound. Sample of Egyptian Mummy Cloth, supposed to be 3000 years old. Assorted colored French Letter Paper, from Napoleon Bonaparte.
Cassel, Isaac R., North Wales. United States Flag. Lincoln's campaign, 1860. Badge, worn by German soldiers in the Franco-German war. Doll Baby, used by the exhibitor in childhood.
Conard, A. & I., Fort Washington. Card of Augers and Auger Bits, manufactured in Montgomery county; modern.
Cook, Walter H., Norristown. Lock of Washington's Hair.
Cope, O. W., Hatboro. Bronze figure of Sacred Bull, surmounted by a musical instrument; a Chinese family god, 1000 years old. Japanese Pillow, made of bamboo. Vase, made of hammered brass; from Paris. Inner Bark of a tree, from the South Sea Islands; used as cloth by the natives. This and the foregoing three articles are the property of S. R. Bowman, Philadelphia. Dinner Bell, dated 1622; brought from England by the grandfather of the present owner. The property of John Thompson, Horsham.
Corson, S. Cameron, Norristown. Five designs for the new City Hall, Philadelphia.
Craft, Mrs. Jacob, Norristown. Pen Holder, over 100 years old.
Cresson, Mary J., Norristown. Inlaid Table, made in 1833.
Davis, Benjamin, Jenkintown. Bone, from nose of saw-fish; from Florida.
Davis, B. P., Norristown. Seven nickel-plated Horse Shoes.
Davis, Edward M., Sr., Oak Lane. Sun Dial, made by Alexander Wilson in 1800.
Davis, John J., Jenkintown. Pattens, for walking in mud; brought from Wales. Stone Hone, found in Horsham, with the date of 1765 cut in it.
Davis, Master Willie, Jenkintown. Belt. At one time the property of Edwin Forrest, the tragedian.
Dettra, Norris, Oaks. Knife, found in a quarry at Oaks; supposed to be old.
Detwiler, Jones, Blue bell. Newspaper Wrapper, 1807. Wrapping Paper, used in 1807. Old Pen Knife and Quills. Old heavy iron Lead Pencil Case. Sun Dial and Compass, made in Mexico; very old. Sun Glass. Pen Knife, made in 1834. Folding Watch Key, with needle. Two iron Tomahawks, carried by the old volunteer rifle companies. One of the first patterns Steel Pens with case and holder. One of the first patterns Gold Pens, with diamond point.
Devoir, John, Port Providence. Seal, found three feet under ground, in the cellar of an old fort, one and one fourth miles from Valley Forge.
Drumbower, Mrs. Elias, Frederick. Burnt clay Tile, made in 1869 by "F. B."
Egolf, Gus, Norristown. Two Globes, made in 1800 and 1802.
Emery, John, Cheltenham. Watchman's Rattle.
Evans, Gertrude, Hatboro. Memorial Button. Seed Bag, made of mimosa seed by the native girls of Honolulu. Presented to the exhibitor by Consul Rozevelt, of New Zealand, six years ago.
Evans, Mrs. Rachael, Bridgeport. Mason's Square, dated 1654.
Felton, Mrs. Joseph, Jenkintown. Door Pull, dated 1707. From an old meeting house near Frankford.
Fitzwater, Mrs. Joseph, Port Providence. Saddle Bags, 100 years old.
Fornance, Mrs. Ellen Knox, Norristown. Plan of Currant Hill plantation, or Knox farm, Norristown, dated 1823. Fire Board, from Col. Knox's house.
Fornance, Joseph, Norristown. Two Rejected Plans, offered for the court house, Norristown, 1849.
Frederick, John, Douglass. Cannon Ball, found in a field; supposed to have been used before the Revolution.
Gallagher, Patrick, Plymouth. Old Wheel, found in Plymouth creek.
Garsed, Mrs. Robert P., Norristown. Camel's Beard, cut from the animal at Senphophor. Owned by Mrs. L. W. Read.
Geller, J. S., Lansdale. Show case of Notions, &c. modern.
Gibbs, Mr., North Wales. Cane, made from a joist of the room where the Declaration of Independence was signed.
Griffin, Mrs. Samuel, Oaks. Doll, in a dress fifty years old.
Gross, S. S. Jr., Norristown. Three cases of Insects.
Haines, J. B., Cheltenham. Reeled Silk, from two hundred and ninety-seven cocoons.

- Hallman, William F.**, Skippack. Electric Apparatus. Stock and Dies, made sixty years ago by John Ziegler, of Perkiomen.
- Harper, Mrs. Smith**, Fox Chase. Knife and Fork to Cut Friendship. Romance of 1788.
- Heckler, James Y.**, Harleysville. Serpents in liquor.
- Hewitt, Charles**, Jenkintown. Old Staple Padlocks, from England.
- Hobensack, Mrs. J. C.**, Willow Grove. Case of stuffed Birds, Snakes, Animals, &c.—41 birds, 3 snakes, 4 squirrels, 1 weasel, etc.—all killed in Montgomery county, and stuffed and prepared by the exhibitor.
- Homer, Morris**, Willow Grove. Three Nets, to catch wild pigeons. Made by William Homer, the exhibitor's grandfather, about 1790, with which he caught many thousands of pigeons on his farm previous to the year 1824. Said William Homer died January 31, 1860, aged nearly 93 years.
- Homer, William**, Norristown. Model of old-time Saw Mill.
- Iredell, Phoebe**, Norristown. Silk Banner, made by the ladies of Norristown in 1840.
- Ironbridge Hatter's Association, The**, Ironbridge. Forty four Hat Bodies, of different colors, put up in a circle. Forty-two Stiff Hats, black, blue, brown, nutria, pearl, maple, and doe-colored. Cassimere Hats, in four colors. Police Helmets and Soft Hats, in different styles and colors. Three kinds of Furs—French hare, cony and beaver.
- Johnson, Benjamin**, Norristown. Saw, very old.
- Jones, Henry**, Ambler. Scales for weighing Continental money.
- Keller, Mrs. Henry**, North Wales. Two Whale's Teeth, from the Southern seas. In owner's possession forty years. Walrus Tooth.
- Kenderdine, Mrs. Lavina**, North Wales. Side Saddle, 1775.
- Kepler, Miss Eliza**, North Wales. Pound Cake, made Christmas, 1776.
- Kettarar, Roman**, Somerton. Carriage Lock, 70 years old. Set of Dumb Bells, 60 years old. Wagon seat iron. Pale Cutter. Horse Shoe Pattern. Wagon Box, hand-made. Two old-fashioned Groove Planes. Yak Shoe, from Hong Kong. Two pairs of Handcuffs, Buckle, from England. Four different Bits. Chinese Mouse Trap. Thirteen different Stirrups. Potato Bug Destroyer. Two Lanterns, 120 years old. Nineteen different Padlocks. Five different Cow Bells. Thirty-seven sets of Sleigh Bells. Large Horse Shoe, from England. Key, which unlocks seven locks. Two Gigs, 176 and 142 years old. Two Dogs and Dog Wagon. Old Flag.
- Kibblehouse, Mrs. Kate**, Blue Bell. Brass Mortar.
- Kile, Mrs. Francis**, North Wales. Bottle of Canned Cherries, put up in 1862.
- Knipe, Irvin P.**, Norristown. Panel of Sounding Board, under which Patrick Henry delivered his speech, ending "Give me liberty or give me death."
- Kohl, George M.**, Jenkintown. Fungus Bracket, made by the owner. Razor, 130 years old. Presented to owner by John Walker.
- Kulp, Elias K.**, Lederachville. Apothecary Balances and Weights, made by the late Isaac Kulp, of Perkiomen. The single cords of the balances were spun by him of silk of his own culture.
- Kulp, Henry D.**, Lucon. Work Bench, Letter Cases, and Bottle Stand, made by the late Isaac Kulp, uncle of the exhibitor.
- Landes, Mrs. J. G.**, Norristown. Books, dated 1792 and 1822.
- Lockard, Miss Ann**, Jenkintown. Yard Stick, made from the cradle in which the great-great-grandparents of the present owner were rocked.
- Lowe, Mrs. T. S. C.**, Norristown. Old Chinese Devotion Bell. Antique Chessmen, from India; 400 years old. Italian Violin, 1516. The scroll is said to have been carved by Benvenuto Cellini, in his 16th year. Emu Egg, from Tasmania. Case of models of the most celebrated Diamonds. Case of Florentine Mosaics. Two Mosaic Table-tops, Italian marble.
- McCool, Charles P.**, Jenkintown. Golden Eagle, shot near Jenkintown, in November, 1881, in John S. Newbold's woods.
- Mann, Jesse**, Pittville. Horse Shoe. Old-fashioned Brake for runaway horse.
- Markley Freundshaft, The**. Hammer and Nail Mould of John Markley, 1780. Surveyor's Compass of Benjamin Markley, 1776. This instrument was used in many important surveys in Montgomery county from 1776 to 1819. Now owned by Hon. B. Markley Boyer. Exhibit of Family Relics, belonging to the descendants of Jacob and Barbara Markley, of Skippack, 1722; in two glass cases and a walnut and gilt frame, draped with maroon curtains; and the commandments: "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee," in large letters, stretched across the frame. A pamphlet genealogy of the Markley family was distributed gratuitously. The several articles exhibited are included in the general classification.
- Mather, Miss Jane**, Philadelphia. Cup, from the treaty elm. Made at Machinery Hall, 1876, from wood furnished by exhibitors.
- Mears, Anne DeB.**, Milestown. Ostrich Egg, brought from India by the exhibitor's uncle, John DeBenneville, in 1820. He visited Calcutta that year, and while watching some ostriches which were near, he saw the hen cover something in the sand. He examined the hole, and found this egg, which he brought home, and which now belongs to the exhibitor.
- Moore, Annie L.**, Cheltenham. Paint Box, containing paints, etc.
- Moore, Edwin**, Port Kennedy. Fire Boards, with paintings of Valley Forge and exhibitor's residence. By Elizabeth Richards, artist.
- Moore & Ervien**, Shoemakertown. Two Carriages, T Cart, and light cut-under Rockaway; modern.
- Moyer, Mrs. Charles**, Broad Axe. Leather Case, for a dagger; made in 1736.
- Nash, Thomas**, Jenkintown. Hickory Home, made in Scotland over two hundred years ago.
- Nice, Mrs. Thomas**, Jenkintown. Doll, "Black Hannah," aged 99; never had a new dress.
- Noble, Franklin**, Jenkintown. Brick, out of the house in which Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence. Razor, used by Charles Carroll, of Carrollton.
- Overholtzer, Mrs. John**, Bridgeport. Emu Egg, brought from Tasmania. Stuffed Pea Fowl.
- Pechin, John W.**, King-of-Prussia. Carriage, 100 years old; owned by Peter Pechin.
- Pomeroy, Mrs. H. S.**, Norristown. Model Pump, carried in a temperance procession forty-five years ago, and a Banner, carried by General Adam J. Slemmer in same parade.
- Prince, Lewis, Sr.**, Norritonville. Pitchfork.
- Reed, Dr. W. H.**, Jeffersonville. Soapstone Image, dug up at Centre Square; supposed to have been worshipped by the aborigines.
- Reiff, Jacob D.**, Skippack. Sash Fastener, patented and invented by the owner.
- Rex, Jacob L.**, Blue Bell. Stone Call, found on the farm two weeks since.
- Rex, Mary S.**, Blue Bell. Curling Tonga, owned one hundred and twenty-five years ago by Levi Rex, of Chestnut Hill, and used by him, as was the custom of that day, for curling his side whiskers.
- Riding, William**, Norristown. Three Model Looms; exhibitor's own work. Heddle, patented in the United States, England and France.
- Rieg, John**, Jenkintown. Case of Butterflies and Moths, 115 specimens; and a case of Butterflies, Moths and Beetles, 72 specimens. All captured or reared at Jenkintown.
- Rittenhouse, Benjamin**, Norristown. Scroll Work, by a boy 15 years old.
- Roberts, Septimus**, Whitpain. Horns of Texas steer, sent by Scott Wentz; modern. Pump Box, 75 years old. Set of Carpenter's Tools—saw, square and bevel, nearly 100 years old. Hammer and Trowel, 100 years old. Horse Hopple and Horse Sock. These were used before horse companies were known. Old iron spur. Tailor's Shears. Belonged to William Lawrence, Whitpain. Horseshoer's Hammer. Ruler. Property of Alexa der Scott, exhibitor's grandfather. Tobacco Box, over 100 years old; from Wales. Barber Chair.
- Rue, Louisa**, Norristown. Sea Fern, pulled from a rock by a sailor off the coast of China, one hundred years ago.
- Satterthwait, Edwin**, Jenkintown. Saddle Bags, used by Abel Satterthwait many years ago.
- Sharpless, Mrs. H. H. G.**, Shoemakertown. Knife, from South Carolina.
- Shearer, Mrs. E. Norris**, Jeffersonville. Coat-of-Arms of the Norris family, over 100 years old; executed by Mrs. Charles Norris, who died before finishing it.
- Slifer, Dr. H. F.** (from his museum in Prof. S. U. Brunner's academy), North Wales. Piece of brick from old Swede's church. Piece of the hand-rail of the Mayflower. Pieces of Plymouth Rock. Piece of Olive Wood from the Garden of Gethsemane. Piece of Olive Wood from Mount Olivet. Piece of Wood from the portico of Mount Vernon. Wheat, of the third growth, from an Egyptian mummy. English Horse Shoe; large, and has been used. Spanish

Spur. One hundred and seventeen different kinds of Wood. Star Fishes, of different kinds and sizes. Two Sea Horses. Stones from Potsdam in Germany, Holland, France, the Coliseum at Rome, Pompeii, the Danube river, Berlin, the Catacombs of Rome, and Venice. Black Bread, from Germany. Box, from Palestine. Portion of lead which lined the coffin of President Abraham Lincoln. Vegetable Ivory. Crystals, from the Palace of Frederick the Great.

Slingluff, Mrs. William H., Norristown. Head of Napoleon; used as a stopper for a cologne bottle. Dr. Franklin's Card. Pistol of Captain Jack, who shot Custer.

Slingluff, Mrs. W. F., Norristown. Three Fire Buckets.

Smith, William G., Norriton. Sun Dial, made in 1723.

Solomon, Mrs. William, Norristown. Knife, over 100 years old.

Sower, F. D., Norristown. Two Norristown Fire Buckets, 1830.

Spencer, Mrs. Ella, Jenkintown. Japanese Back Scratcher. handle of fish bone; hand of ivory. Unique.

Stiteler, Mrs. Edwin, Gulf Mills. Rings and Ornaments, made from wood which was taken from the headquarters of Lafayette at Gulf Mills. Beads, brought from Japan by Stephen Mitchell, on the ship Niagara, in 1861.

Stong, George, Worcester. Broad Axe, 100 years old.

Stong, Mrs. Phillip, Worcester. Steelyard, dated 1730.

Stout, Mrs. S. K., Norristown. Dog Cane, cut by a fugitive slave. Cane, made from a log from the cabin used by General Washington at Valley Forge, in 1797 and 1778.

Strassburger, Mrs. J. A., Norristown. Plate 100 years old.

Summers, Aaron H., East Greenville. Wooden Candlestick, made from a piece of wood taken from the first six-cornered church (Lutheran), built in 1750, in Upper Hanover township; again used, in rebuilding in 1803, and part of it now in the new church, built in 1877.

Supplee, Samuel, Bridgeport. Cannon Ball, weighing twenty pounds; plowed from the farm in 1884.

Thomas, Mrs. Abel, Royersford. Scissors Chain.

Thompson, Mary L., Jenkintown. Small Flags, for teaching form and color in primary schools.

Tyson, Mrs. Canby S., Weldon. Wooden Doll, 108 years old.

Tyson, Samuel, King-of-Prussia. Broad Axe, supposed to be 150 years old.

Wack, Mrs. N., Jenkintown. Parchesi Board.

Walker, E. H., Jarrettown. Collection of Shells from China.

Walton, Harry C., Blue Bell. Rule, formerly owned by Hon. John B. Sterigere.

Walton, Miss Jane, Philadelphia. Cup, from the treaty elm made at Machinery Hall, Centennial exhibition, 1876, from wood furnished by exhibitor.

Walton, John, Horsham. Iron Door Knocker, from a house in Horsham; 100 years old.

Wampole, Dr. William H., North Wales. Display of Dentistry.

Watt David, Norristown. Bottle of Vinegar.

Wear, Mrs. Joseph, Upper Merion. Tidy. Sampler.

Webster, Mrs. Sarah, Jenkintown. Small brass Weights and Scales, believed to be 200 years old.

Wentz, Thomas, Fort Washington. Three Tiles, taken from a house, near Fort Washington, occupied by the exhibitor.

White, George, Braad Axe, Swordfish's Tail, very old and odd; Sword of a swordfish, very old.

Williams, Thomas, Pittville. Horse Shoe, made in 1884.

Wilson, D. A., Norristown. Specimen of Printing by the exhibitor, to show the progress made by his race. Printed without instructions, having learned the art by self-practice.

Wolf, William, Norristown. Apparatus for dyeing yarn, recently invented modeled in brass.

Wolfe, Dr. Samuel, Shippack. Lead Pencil, found among the effects of the late George Seipt, of Worcester, father of A. H. Seipt, of Shippack. It is a conical piece of metallic lead, half an inch long, attached to a wooden handle four inches long. Exhibited to show the great contrast between it and the convenient pencil of our day.

Yost, Henry, Collegeville. Small Head, carved in stone from Mexico.

Young, Samuel, Sr., Norristown. Saw and Steel yards 125 years old. Ship Carpenter's Adze, 150 years old. Drawing Knife, 150 years old.

Zimmerman, Esther, Norristown. Snuff Box, made from the elm tree under which William Penn made his treaty with the Indians.

Zimmerman, Frank, Norristown. Graduating Rule.

Zimmerman, Maria, Norristown. Box of Money Scales and Weights.

Zinnel, Josephine, Case of Stuffed Birds, over 100 years old.

The total number of exhibitors at this Antiquarian Exposition was 1,240. This is a very flattering testimonial as to the success of the enterprise, that so many persons took an interest therein. At the great Centennial Exposition and World's Fair, in Philadelphia, in 1876, the total number of exhibitors reached 30,864, and were distributed among fifty countries of the world. The United States headed the list with 8,175 exhibitors. Thus it will be seen that our exhibitors exceeded one-twenty-fifth of the total number at the Philadelphia exposition and one-seventh of those from the United States.

PROCEEDINGS OF COURT.

At the June term, 1884, of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace of Montgomery County, his Honor B. Markley Boyer presiding, the Report of the Grand Jury was read, which concludes as follows:

This Grand Jury is the last that will hold its sessions under the rules of this Court, during the first century of the county of Montgomery. The members composing the present inquest therefore deem it a subject of congratulation, that for the period of one hundred years, the public peace within the jurisdiction of this Court has been uninterrupted by violence, and that the laws of the land have been faithfully executed by the several Courts and executive officers of the county.

WALTER H. CORSON, Clerk.

NORMAN EGBERT, Foreman.

After the report had been read by Edward Schall, Esq., Clerk of Courts, John W. Bickel, Esq., District Attorney, presented the following

MEMORIAL MOTION.

To the Honorable B. Markley Boyer, President Judge of said Court:

The regular June term of the several courts now in session, is the last one that will occur during the first century of the history of Montgomery County. The peaceful observance of the laws of this Commonwealth has been uninterrupted, within its limits, for the period of one hundred years. Therefore, counsel for the Commonwealth moves this Honorable Court, upon hearing, to direct a proper entry to be made of the following minutes in commemoration of the close of the Judicial century, as a suitable memorial of the event, to wit:

That in the administration of public justice, and the due execution of the laws this Commonwealth by an impartial judiciary and a bar learned in the law, aided by the service of incorruptible jurors, the true object and end of civil government have been attained, as witnessed in the security of life, the enjoyment of liberty, the protection of property, the repression of crime, and in the peace and permanency of society.

JOHN W. BICKEL, District Attorney.

Addresses suitable to the occasion were made by John W. Bickel, Esq., General John H. Hobart, the senior member of the bar, Irving P. Wanger, Esq., and Colonel Theodore W. Bean. At the conclusion of which, his Honor B. Markley Boyer responded in appropriate remarks, and directed the motion to be spread in full upon the records of the Court as a lasting memorial of the event.

By the Court.

EDW. SCHALL, Clerk.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Centennial Association of Montgomery County.

It is not necessary for the Secretary and Treasurer of your Finance Committee to explain the plan adopted by that committee to raise the money for the expenses of the centennial anniversary, or the manner in which it was celebrated. You are familiar with both. The favorable condition of the finances proves the wisdom of the plan, and attests the care with which it was managed.

Total receipts, \$6216.93; total expenditures, \$4825.43; balance on hand, \$1391.50.

The following is a statement of the moneys collected:

ADVANCE SALE OF TICKETS AND CERTIFICATES.

Boroughs and Townships.—Norristown, \$660.70; Pottstown, \$50.60 Bridgeport, \$61; Conshohocken, \$98.50; East Greenville, 26.10; Green

Lane, 90 cts.; Hathboro', \$1; Jenkintown, \$25; Lansdale, \$26.10; North Wales, \$68; Royersford, \$15.30; West Conshohocken, \$41.40; Abington, \$50; Cheltenham, \$216; Douglass, \$13.50; Franconia; Frederick, \$24; Gwynedd, \$104.10; Hatfield, \$5.40; Horsham, \$53.10; Lower Merion, \$174.20; Lower Providence, \$62.20; Lower Salford, \$12.60; Limerick, \$7; Marlborough, \$4; Moreland, \$19.80; Montgomery, \$27; New Hanover, \$31.50; Norriton, \$92; Perkiomen, \$185.40; Plymouth, \$58.50; Pottsgrove, \$2.80; Springfield, \$94.50; Towamencin, \$15.30; Upper Dublin, \$64.80; Upper Hanover (included in East Greenville); Upper Merion, \$102.60; Upper Providence, \$153; Upper Salford, \$7.20; Whitmarsh, \$152.50; Whitpain, \$78.30; Worcester, \$75.60. Collected personally by Joseph Fornance, F. G. Hobson and J. A. Strassburger, \$685.

OTHER SOURCES.

Collected from railroad tickets and rebates, \$442.27; gross receipts at entrance door, etc., \$1509.39; gross receipts from public sale, \$527.88; gross receipts from refreshment stand, \$101.79; total, \$6216.93.

The following is a statement of the expenditures:

By cash paid for stationery and postage, \$178.11; by cash paid for expressage, \$35.09; by cash paid for teams, \$128.75; by cash paid for traveling expenses, \$7.77; by cash paid for newspaper items, \$6.75; by cash paid for music, \$348.50; by cash paid for insurance, \$93; by cash paid for entertainment of Indians and dinner for employees, \$54.50; by cash paid for printing, \$328.43; by cash paid for wages and hauling, \$1280.61; by cash paid for incidentals, \$103.56; by cash paid for contribution to Official Record, \$100; by cash paid for certificates, merchandise, lumber, carpenter-work, rent of tent, etc., \$1924.36; by cash paid for Rittenhouse monolith, \$27; by cash paid for auditing expenses, \$9. Total expenditures, \$4825.43. Balance in hand, 1891.50. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. A. STRASSBURGER, Secretary and Treasurer of Finance Committee, Centennial Association of Montgomery County, Pa.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

To the Centennial Association of Montgomery County:

We, the undersigned Auditors, appointed by the President of the Centennial Association of Montgomery County, which appointment was ratified by the Executive Committee of said Association, to audit and adjust the accounts of Jacob A. Strassburger, Esq., Secretary and Treasurer of the Finance Committee, make the following report:

Jacob A. Strassburger to the Centennial Association.

DR.

To total amount received from all sources, as itemized in full in the Treasurer's report, \$6216.93.

CR.

By cash paid for various bills, as itemized in the Treasurer's report, \$4825.43. Balance in Treasurer's hands, \$1391.50. And have found the accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer, Jacob A. Strassburger, Esq., correct in charge as well as discharge.

PHILIP SUPER,
H. W. KRATZ,
THOMAS WILLIAMS, } Auditors.

Norristown, December 23, 1884.

DISPOSAL OF FUND.

At the final meeting of the Centennial Association, held January 8, 1885, the balance remaining in the hands of the Financial Secretary was disposed of as follows: Indebtedness of Historical Society, \$157.00; eight copies of Official Record presented, \$20.00; sundry bills paid, \$11.01; to the Historical Society of Montgomery County, *in trust*, to be invested in good real estate security, the principal sum to remain intact, and the interest only to be used for the purposes of the society, \$1,203.49. Total, \$1,391.50.

OFFICERS OF ASSOCIATION.

President.—Joseph Fornance, Esq., Norristown.

Vice Presidents.—Hon. Isaac F. Yost, New Hanover; Wharton Barker, Jenkintown; Philip Super, Pottsgrove; Warner Roberts, Lower Merion; Robert Iredell, Norristown; Dr. Hiram Corson, Conshohocken; Abraham H. Cassel, Harleysville; Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D., Collegeville; George Lower, Springfield; Daniel Foulke, Gwynedd.

Recording Secretary.—F. G. Hobson, Esq., Norristown.

Corresponding Secretary.—Muscoe M. Gibson, Esq., Norristown.

Financial Secretary.—J. A. Strassburger, Esq., Norristown.

Treasurer.—Lewis Etyer, Norristown.

COMMITTEES.

Executive.—F. G. Hobson, Esq., Norristown, Chairman; Col. Theo. W. Bean, Norristown; J. Roberts Rambo, Norristown; John W. Bickel, Esq., Norristown; Joseph Lees, Esq., Bridgeport; William J. Buck, Jenkintown; G. Dallas Bolton, Norristown; Col. John W. Schall, Norristown; Henry W. Kratz, Upper Providence; J. A. Strassburger, Esq., Norristown; Samuel F. Jarrett, Norriton.

Antiquarian.—William J. Buck, Jenkintown, Chairman; Hon. Jones Detwiler, Whitpain; Henry S. Dotterer, Philadelphia; Philip Super, Upper Hanover; Thomas G. Rutter, Pottsgrove; George F. Price Wanger, Norristown; Abraham H. Cassel, Lower Salford; Mrs. Dr. George W. Holstein, Bridgeport; Mrs. Sarah H. Tyson, Upper Merion; Mrs. G. R. Fox, Norristown; Mrs. William W. Owen, Norristown; Mrs. Joseph Fornance, Norristown.

Finance.—David H. Ross, Esq., Conshohocken, Chairman; J. A. Strassburger, Esq., Norristown, Secretary and Treasurer; Albert Bromer, West Perkiomen; Col. Theo. W. Bean, Norristown; George W. Rogers, Esq., Norristown.

Literary Exercises.—Hon. George N. Corson, Norristown, Chairman; Jacob V. Gotwals, Esq., Norristown; William L. Williamsou, Pottstown; Hon. William H. Sutton, Lower Merion; Dr. William T. Robinson, Hathboro'.

Memorial.—Hon. Jones Detwiler, Whitpain, Chairman; Dr. Hiram Corson, Plymouth; John Hoffman, Norriton; Hon. Hiram C. Hoover, Norriton; Samuel F. Jarrett, Norriton; Samuel Rittenhouse, Norriton.

Building.—Samuel F. Jarrett, Norriton, Chairman; Justice P. Leaver, Norristown; G. Dallas Bolton, Norristown; Joseph Fitzwater, Upper Providence.

Music.—Lafayette Ross, Norristown, Chairman; Henry W. Kratz, Upper Providence; Dr. P. Y. Eisenberg, Norristown.

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